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Focus back on Eglinton LRT

New TTC board. Commissioners to see buried report and grapple with province on execution of plan

A report showing the pros and cons of burying the Eglinton LRT — blocked from public view by Mayor Rob Ford's allies on the old Toronto Transit Commission — will be released by the new board, says Karen Stintz, who is continuing as TTC chair.

But it's not clear when that will happen, as the TTC tries to regain its footing under a new board and a new chief executive.

The report was supposed to outline how the TTC would work with the province and Infrastructure Ontario on the massive Eglinton LRT project, expected to now cost about $6.5 billion.

Now that it's nearly certain council will back street-level LRT as the preferred option for Sheppard Avenue at a special meeting on March 21, Stintz said the TTC can again move ahead on the Eglinton project, on which preliminary construction is already underway.

It's the cornerstone of an $8.4-billion transit expansion Queen's Park has promised the city.

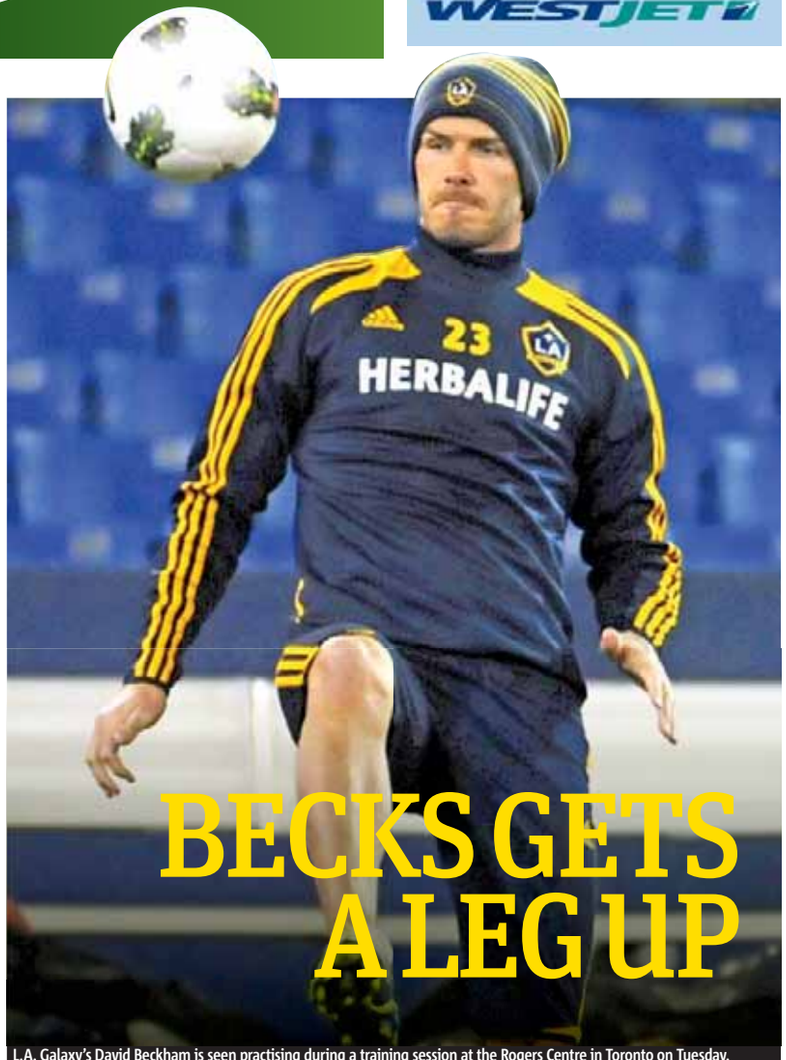
Coming to final arrangements on how the TTC will work with Infrastructure Ontario — the province's preferred project delivery manager — on Eglinton will be among the first issues facing the reconstituted transit commission.

On Monday, city council supported Stintz's motion to dissolve the old TTC board, purging Ford allies who engineered the firing two weeks ago of TTC chief general manager Gary Webster.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Responsibility

- **Infrastructure Ontario.** During the long construction period, expected to span the rest of the decade, it's not clear how issues with businesses and residents will be resolved — whether the TTC or IO will answer those calls.



BECKS GETS A LEG UP

L.A. Galaxy's David Beckham is seen practising during a training session at the Rogers Centre in Toronto on Tuesday, ahead of his team's CONCACAF quarter-final first-leg match against Toronto FC tonight. Story, page 40. CENTRAL IMAGE AGENCY

Is bin Laden under the sea?

WikiLeaks claims emails show U.S. intelligence firm has doubts regarding the terrorist's unconventional burial PAGES 16-17

Murdered girl's last day

Teacher testifies in London courtroom about Tori Stafford's last day in elementary school, after which she vanished PAGE 8

Gen Y, are you buying this?

Experts say tweens, teens and 20-somethings are the "shopping" generation, eager to spend on what's new and cool PAGE 18

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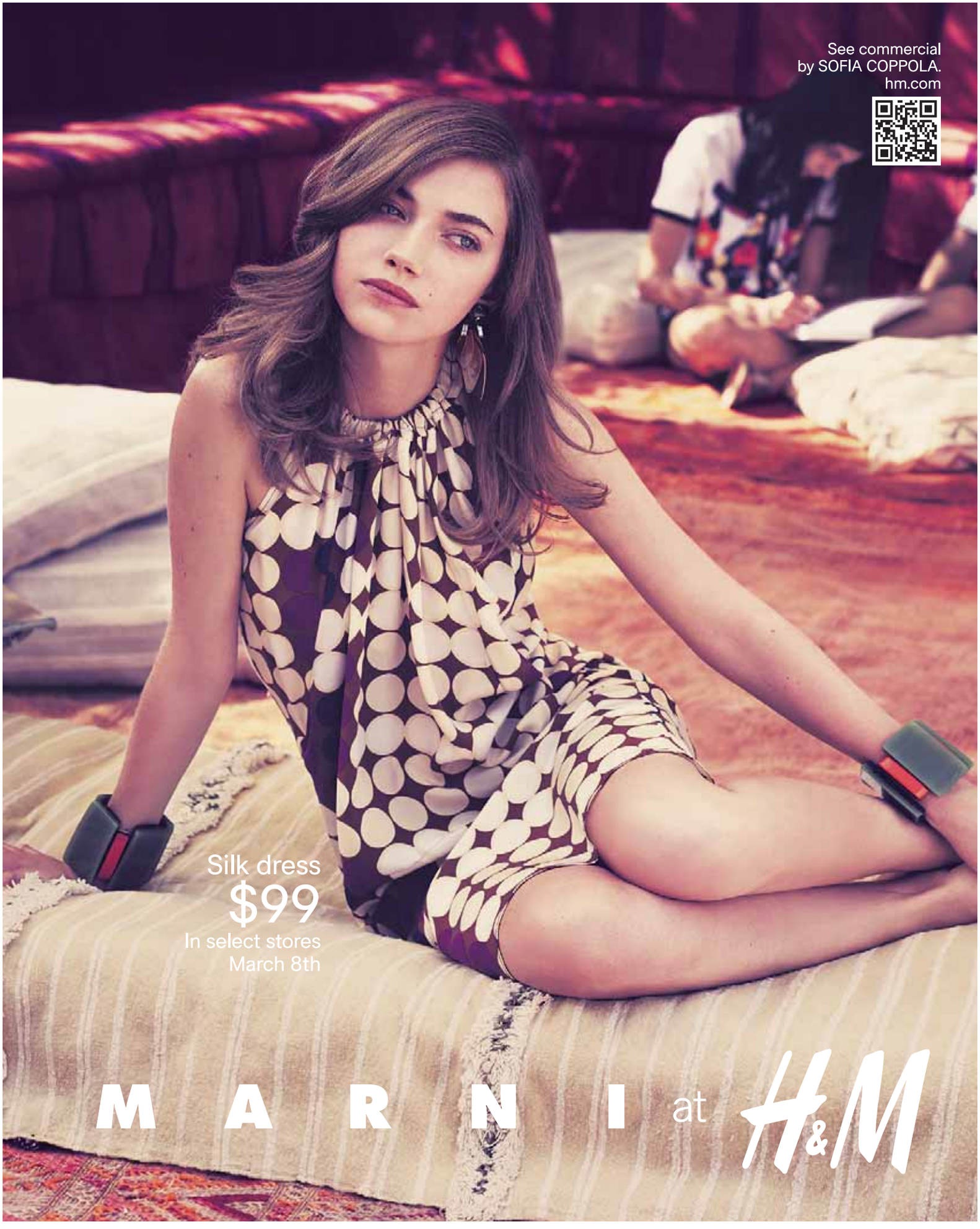
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City council

Sports fees put off

Sports leagues anxiously awaiting the results of a vote on extra fees to use the city's outdoor facilities were relieved Tuesday after council passed a motion to defer the charges for the 2012 season.

Organizations such as the Toronto Baseball Association said the fees for outdoor sports fields would be passed down to players and result in families pulling their kids out of the popular sport for the summer. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Mental health

Man's flight sparks call for reform

The disappearance of a mentally ill man while under a downtown Toronto facility's care for the second time in as many months is a symptom of the country's ailing mental health-care system, a Toronto MP says.

George May
CONTRIBUTED/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

George May, a 51-year-old with a violent history, vanished outside the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health's Queen West facility at around 5 p.m. Monday.

May returned to the facility early Tuesday after police alerted the public that he "may pose a danger."

Olivia Chow, the New Democrat MP for Trinity-Spadina, said the episodes point to a broken system in need of repair.
TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Murals

Kids' creativity runs wild at school

The students at Rose Avenue Public School are making their mark — in the halls, on the walls and now on the ceiling.

As part of a school-wide art project, students have been painting murals around the building, and this week started on the main archway — which they're calling their Michelangelo moment.

The artwork is in part beautification, but also community-building, said principal David Crichton.
TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Branson takes up cause to protect Canada's polar bears

From left, Peter Knights of the international wildlife-conservation organization WildAid, philanthropist Sir Richard Branson and actress Bo Derrick pose at a press conference at Hart House in Toronto on Tuesday. Branson says legislation protecting Canada's polar bears will soon be brought to Queen's Park as a private-member's bill this spring, and is being pushed by WildAid. CENTRAL IMAGE AGENCY

Is Ford to blame, or his allies?

Politics. Councillor points finger at mayor's advisers for recent missteps

What's next?

"I think from here out, there are items where there may be room for compromise and others where there isn't. Sometimes you're just dead right."

Deputy Mayor Doug Holyday

The morning after yet another embarrassing defeat at council for Rob Ford, right-wing Coun. Peter Milczyn publicly declared on radio what many have been saying privately for months: The mayor's brother and his advisers are the problem.

Milczyn is a Ford-friendly councillor who, like six others, has recently split with him over the mismanaged transit file. Those defectors could be lured back into the fold if the administration adopts a smoother bedside manner.

The question is whether the mayor is interested in changing his tactics.

Those closest to Ford suggest he isn't. Instead, the administration is hoping the worst is behind them and a less controversial agenda going forward will dial down the heat.

According to his allies, this has all been part of the administration's four-year plan. They jam-packed the most contentious campaign promises into the first year and a half — the core-service review, budget cuts, strong-arming concessions out of the unions, and overhauling the transit plan to put new tracks underground — allowing time for a pre-election recovery.

Milczyn seemed to pin the blame on Coun. Doug Ford, telling CBC's Metro Morning that the mayor's brother "has had a tendency to continually add fuel to the fire when others of us have been trying to douse the flames."

Specifically, Milczyn suggested Doug Ford's recent heated comments about subways, which appeared critical of TTC chair Karen Stintz, left "a lot of councillors nervous."
TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Tim Hudak wants the premier to take action on transit. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

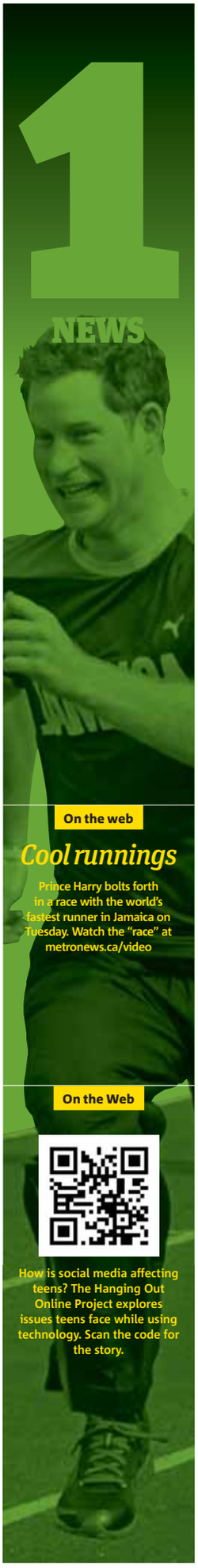
Subway. Overrule city on transit, Hudak urges

Premier Dalton McGuinty should overrule Toronto city council's transit plans despite its Monday machinations that dealt another setback to Mayor Rob Ford's push for subways, says Progressive Conservative Leader Tim Hudak.

Calling subways a "once-in-a-generation" investment, Hudak told reporters Tuesday that McGuinty is wrong to insist the province will follow council's lead on transit plans when provincial taxpayers are contributing $8.4 billion.

Hudak is pushing for the Eglinton light rail transit line to be buried for its full length.

Council has also yet to decide whether to extend the Sheppard subway underground or extend it with light rail.
TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



On the web

Cool runnings

Prince Harry bolts forth in a race with the world's fastest runner in Jamaica on Tuesday. Watch the "race" at metronews.ca/video

On the Web

How is social media affecting teens? The Hanging Out Online Project explores issues teens face while using technology. Scan the code for the story.

Canadian railway watchdog calling for safety upgrades

Deadly derailment. Report from the Transportation Safety Board shows similarity with Quebec incident

Two years before VIA train 92 derailed near Aldershot, there was a similar accident in Quebec.

Now safety advocates say it's time to install the rail technology that might have prevented those crashes, and the deaths and injuries that followed.

On Tuesday, as CN officials confirmed they'd finally finished cleaning up 4,000 litres of spilled fuel at the crash site, the Transportation Safety Board renewed calls for voice recorders in train cockpits — and went the extra step in calling for a system called positive train control.

The board's report on a 2010 derailment near Quebec City similar to the VIA crash says Canada lags behind other countries, including the United States, in requiring railroads to use potentially life-saving technology.

Both derailments were caused by excessive speed as the trains were about to switch tracks, said Rob Johnston, the safety board's manager for Central Region Operations.

Positive train control, mandated for U.S. railroads by 2015, is a computerized system that automatically applies the brakes when a train is travelling at unauthorized speeds.

"With the technology that's available today there's no reason why we shouldn't be having some additional physical barriers that will enhance safety, at least in high-speed corridors," Johnston said.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Recommendations

- **Next step.** In a statement Tuesday, Transport Minister Denis Lebel said he has asked the Advisory Council on Rail Safety "on an urgent basis" to look into the matter of installing voice recorders.
- **Improvements.** The safety board report also calls for signals inside train cockpits.

A locomotive sits in the remains of a shed and a porch in the backyard of a home in St-Charles-de-Bellechasse, Que., on Thursday, Feb. 25, 2010. The Via Rail train carrying about 120 passengers and 10 crew had derailed. The federal Transportation Safety Board says there are troubling similarities between a recent fatal rail accident here in Ontario and that derailment two years earlier in Quebec. CLEMENT ALLARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

Cops charge driver in YouTube fender bender

Herman Sham, left, and Raguruban Yogarajah inspect damage after the accident last month. YOUTUBE SCREEN GRAB

The Ajax man at the centre of an Internet storm caused by a fender bender caught on a dashboard camera has been charged by police in the collision.

Raguruban Yogarajah is charged with fraud over $5,000, attempted fraud and public mischief.

"I know I'm innocent," he said Tuesday. "I guess we'll have to wait and go through all this to prove (it)."

He declined to comment further on his lawyer's advice.

Yogarajah was involved in a collision on Highway 401 last month in rush hour traffic when his Acura TSX rolled backwards and bumped Herman Sham's Subaru Legacy. Sham had a dash camera and recorded the incident.

Sham posted the video to YouTube with the title "The reason why you need a dash camera (scam foiled)." It caused an uproar, with people unleashing their fury at Yogarajah.

As the incident attracted increasing attention online, web vigilantes searched his licence plate. In online forums, they boasted about visiting his house at night, phoning the bank where he works and postering his neighbourhood with insulting photographs.

Sham has said he strongly disagrees with those actions, and only posted the video because he wanted other drivers to protect themselves. He said Tuesday he did not want to comment on the new charges, since they are now before the courts.

Durham Region police launched a probe into the harassment of Yogarajah's family. There was no word Tuesday on the status of that investigation.

The OPP investigation into the crash began after the online uproar grew.

At the scene of the collision, both Sham and Yogarajah said it was Yogarajah who phoned police.

OPP Sgt. Dave Woodford said the public mischief charge relates to Yogarajah's claim to police at the time that it was Sham who hit him.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Animal welfare

Dogs removed from property

Authorities have seized 73 dogs after checking up on orders issued late last month in southwestern Ontario. The Ontario SPCA says the dogs were seized at a property near Lucknow, south of Kincardine, Ont.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Tourism

Maid to be back at Niagara Falls

Operators of the Maid of the Mist say the boats will be back in the water this year on both sides of the Niagara River Gorge.

The news comes after the company lost its operating contract after 165 years.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Maid of the Mist
DAVID DUPREY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Attack

Girl charged after mall stabbing

A 17-year-old girl faces charges after a stabbing incident at a Brampton mall.

Peel regional police say a 22-year-old man was stabbed several times in the head Monday evening. The victim called for an ambulance from an apartment lobby.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Tragedy averted

Cop warns of car stuck on tracks

A provincial police officer used his emergency cruiser lights to prevent a crash between a vehicle and a train near Windsor, Ont. Tuesday morning.

A 56-year-old woman became stuck on tracks while making a U-turn.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Theft

Glass-fibre chicken stolen

Provincial police are searching for a large glass-fibre chicken.

Police say the $3,000 decorative bird disappeared from a chicken farm near Simcoe, Ont. Whoever took it left the legs behind.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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GTA to get its first Muslim cemetery

Custom. 40,000 graves will allow Muslims to bury their loved ones according to tradition

The Greater Toronto Area will be getting its first cemetery catering to all Muslims this summer.

The province has granted a licence to the Toronto Muslim Cemetery Corp., allowing it to operate the site in Richmond Hill.

The corporation says the cemetery is a joint project between Sunni- and Shiite-Muslim communities and will open in June.

Board chairman Sabi Ahsan says the cemetery is a "landmark co-operation" between Muslims of all denominations and will bring the entire community closer together.

He says the cemetery will be the first in the area that manages services according to Muslim custom, operates on weekends and will have all graves correctly aligned toward Mecca.

The land for the cemetery was bought for $6.8 million from a Jewish company — Beth Olam Cemetery Corp. — which provided the Muslim corporation with an interest-free mortgage.

Ahsan says it will hold 40,000 graves and will allow Muslims to bury their loved ones on the day they die, according to religious custom.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Family chows down

Christian Bergeron, of Trois Rivières, Que., chows down on a smoked-meat sandwich with his family at Schwartz's in Montreal Tuesday. He says he doesn't want to see the iconic deli in malls or other cities. It is believed the Montreal landmark has been sold to Céline Dion and husband René Angélil. ANDREW CHUNG/ TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Human Rights

Group aims at Canada's torture directive

A human-rights group wants the federal government to withdraw a directive permitting Canada's spy agency to share information even when there's a real risk it will lead to torture.

In a letter to the public safety minister and the head of the Canadian Security Intelligence Service, Amnesty International Canada says the policy "is in direct contravention" of Canada's international obligations to prevent brutalization of prisoners.

The government directive outlines instructions for deciding whether to share information when there is a "substantial risk" that doing so might result in someone in custody being abused.

It also entrenches an earlier policy dictating that protection of life and property be the key considerations when deciding on the use of information that may have been extracted through torture.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Shelburne residents Tonya Ritchie and Janet Piper with the mysterious suitcase and films. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

The mystery of the purple suitcase

It was by chance or fate that Tonya Ritchie spent $5 on a purple suitcase she found in a St. John's Salvation Army three years ago.

She had needed a bag to haul frozen cod home to Shelburne, Ont., during a trip out East for a wedding, and this one, she said, screamed, "Buy me!"

Little did she know that tucked in the bag's front pocket — zipped shut and stored in her attic for much of the time since then — were three eight-millimetre film reels containing the childhood memories of a friend, Janet Piper, 51, who lives just three doors down.

"What are the chances of us being such good friends, living so close, me buying the suitcase?" Ritchie, 40, said.

Both women know their tale flirts with the impossible, but that's what makes it all the more meaningful to them.

In January, Ritchie retrieved the suitcase for another trip East when she discovered the tapes. Neither she nor her daughter, who had used the bag a few times, had opened the front pocket before.

With one labelled "New Year's Eve 1966-1967," the tapes, marked with Canada Post stamps, belonged to James Brander of 17 Beaver St. in Glen Williams, Ont.

Ritchie and her husband Bob realized their neighbour grew up there, so when Piper's husband James happened to stop by, Bob showed him the tapes.

James Piper only needed a glance at the name for the story to shift to the surreal.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Anonymous

Toews threatened, Speaker says

House of Commons Speaker Andrew Scheer has ruled Public Safety Minister Vic Toews' parliamentary privileges were breached by videos posted online by the group Anonymous, clearing the way for the hackers to be hauled before MPs.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ornge spin-off

Former health minister blamed

The spin-off of the troubled Ornge air ambulance service was done without competitive bidding thanks to an unusual exemption sought by then-health minister George Smitherman, says current minister Deb Matthews.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Deb Matthews. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Chat-room shooting

Police seek online witnesses

Police say visitors to an online video chat room may have watched a 19-year-old Nebraska man fatally shoot himself in the head and investigators are scouring the man's computer to try to identify witnesses.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

1960s-1982

5-year sentence for old sex crimes

A New Brunswick man has been sentenced to five years in prison for having sex with a girl under the age of 14 and four counts of sexual assault against girls from 1960 to 1982.

John Joseph Allain pleaded guilty in January.
CHSJ/NEWS 88.9

Baby debate

Councillor brings baby to work

A rural county councillor in Alberta says she will continue bringing her baby to work despite complaints from a fellow female politician. Kara Westerlund has been taking the baby to day-long council meetings because she is breast-feeding. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Teacher remembers 'lovely little girl'

Tori Stafford trial. Murdered girl left classroom one minute late on last day of her life, teacher testifies

On the last day of Victoria Stafford's life, the "lovely little girl" used a computer to research plants, got her tights wet by jumping in puddles, and had a time-out for goofing around, her teacher testified Tuesday.

The Grade 3 student also asked for permission to run back to her classroom at the end of the day to retrieve a pair of earrings she had forgotten, Jennifer Griffin Murrell told court.

Tori went to get them and left about one minute after the bell, behind her classmates.

Because the girl wasn't wearing the butterfly earrings, Griffin Murrell asked her if she had found them, and Tori said she had.

"I said, 'OK, hun, we'll see you tomorrow,'" Griffin Murrell told court.

She never saw Tori again.

The eight-year-old vanished shortly after leaving school that day — April 8, 2009.

Three months later, her partially clothed remains were found in garbage bags and under a pile of rocks in a field more than 100 kilometres from her home in Woodstock, Ont.

The Crown alleges Michael Rafferty and Terri-Lynne McClintic, who has already pleaded guilty to first-degree murder, snatched Tori outside her school and, within hours, sexually assaulted and killed her.

Rafferty is now on trial, having pleaded not guilty to first-degree murder, sexual assault causing bodily harm and kidnapping.

Tori was killed by multiple blows to the head with a hammer and had blunt injuries to her torso that lacerated her liver and fractured her ribs, court has heard.

Griffin Murrell wept as she described the "happy-go-lucky, energetic" student.

"She had a little spunk," Griffin Murrell said. "She was very dramatic in a way that she liked music and drama, and always liked to do little role plays or air bands.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Tearful testimony

> "She was kind of like a mother hen to a lot of the younger kids in (the split Grade 2/3) class. She always wanted to help."
>
> **Jennifer Griffin Murrell**
> Tori Stafford's teacher during testimony on Tuesday.

Rodney Stafford, father of slain Victoria Stafford, pleads with the media to keep the focus on the victim during the trial of Michael Rafferty outside the courthouse in London, Ont., Tuesday. GEOFF ROBINS/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Study. Ban on cellphones while driving saving lives

California's nearly four-year-old ban on drivers using hand-held cellphones is saving lives, according to a University of California, Berkeley, study released Monday.

The study found that overall traffic deaths dropped 22 per cent, while deaths blamed on drivers using hand-held cellphones were down 47 per cent. Deaths among drivers who use hands-free phones dropped at a similar rate. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Energy. Nuclear plant's price tag no clearer after first contract awarded for Darlington station

What's the price tag of renewing Ontario's nuclear generating fleet?

The multi-billion-dollar answer is no clearer — and perhaps murkier — after Friday's announcement of the first contract to overhaul the four reactors at the Darlington nuclear station.

Consider:

There is no over-all price tag for the massive Darlington overhaul project.

There is no price tag for the two new nuclear units being planned for the Darlington station.

Ontario has not yet subjected its long term energy plan to public hearings.

Energy minister Chris Bentley says the approach means the province will be able to hold contractors to the terms of the deal and taxpayers and ratepayers won't be at risk for cost over-runs. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Extraordinary heroism and loss in tornado

Indiana. Woman saves children, loses legs as tornado destroys home

A woman who saved her two children by binding them together with a blanket and shielding them with her body as a tornado ripped apart their house lost parts of both her legs, which were crushed by the falling debris, her husband says.

Stephanie Decker, a 36-year-old sleep specialist, lost one leg above the knee and the other above the ankle, her husband said Monday. She was in serious but stable condition at a Kentucky hospital. The couple's eight-year-old son and five-year-old daughter survived Friday's storm unscathed.

"I told her, 'They're here because of you,'" Joe Decker said by telephone from the University of Louisville Hospital. "I let her know that nothing else matters. I said, 'You're going to be here for your kids, and you get to see them grow up.'"

Joe, 42, was at Silver Creek High School in Sellersburg, Ind., where he teaches algebra, when the tornado hit.

With storms expected, the school had been locked down, and he was debating whether to try to race home. He exchanged a series of texts with his wife, urging her to get herself and their children into the basement of their sprawling, three-storey brick-and-stone home in Marysville, Ind.

He said his wife told him later that she was in their walk-out basement, which had French doors leading outside and a wall of windows, when she saw the tornado approaching, moving across the family's six-hectare plot. Stephanie had already tied a blanket around both children and to herself, and she threw herself on top of the children.

"She said she felt the whole house start to go, and then she felt like it moved them about before it kind of wedged her in there, but she was able to keep the kids from moving away," Joe said.

When the tornado passed, their son Dominic Decker ran across the street to seek help from neighbours.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Survival

"The house is gone. It's pretty amazing that she's alive."

Holly Hinson
Hospital spokesperson

Stephanie and Joe Decker
COURTESY OF DECKER FAMILY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Sabu. Legendary hacker now co-operating with FBI

The shadowy underworld of Internet hackers was rocked Tuesday by news that one of the world's most-wanted and most-feared computer vandals has been an FBI informant for months and helped authorities build a case against five people they say were comrades.

The FBI said it captured the legendary hacker known as Sabu last June and he turned out to be Hector Xavier Monsegur, a 28-year-old self-taught, unemployed computer programmer with no college education, living on welfare in public housing in New York.

His exploits made him a hero to some in cyberspace until he made a rookie mistake — he posted something online without cloaking his IP address, or computer identity — and someone tipped off the FBI.

Soon after his arrest, he pleaded guilty and began spilling secrets, leading to charges Tuesday against five people in Europe and the U.S., including a Chicago man who boasted that he'd snared the personal data of a former U.S. vice-president and one-time CIA director, and preventing more than 300 attacks along the way, authorities said.

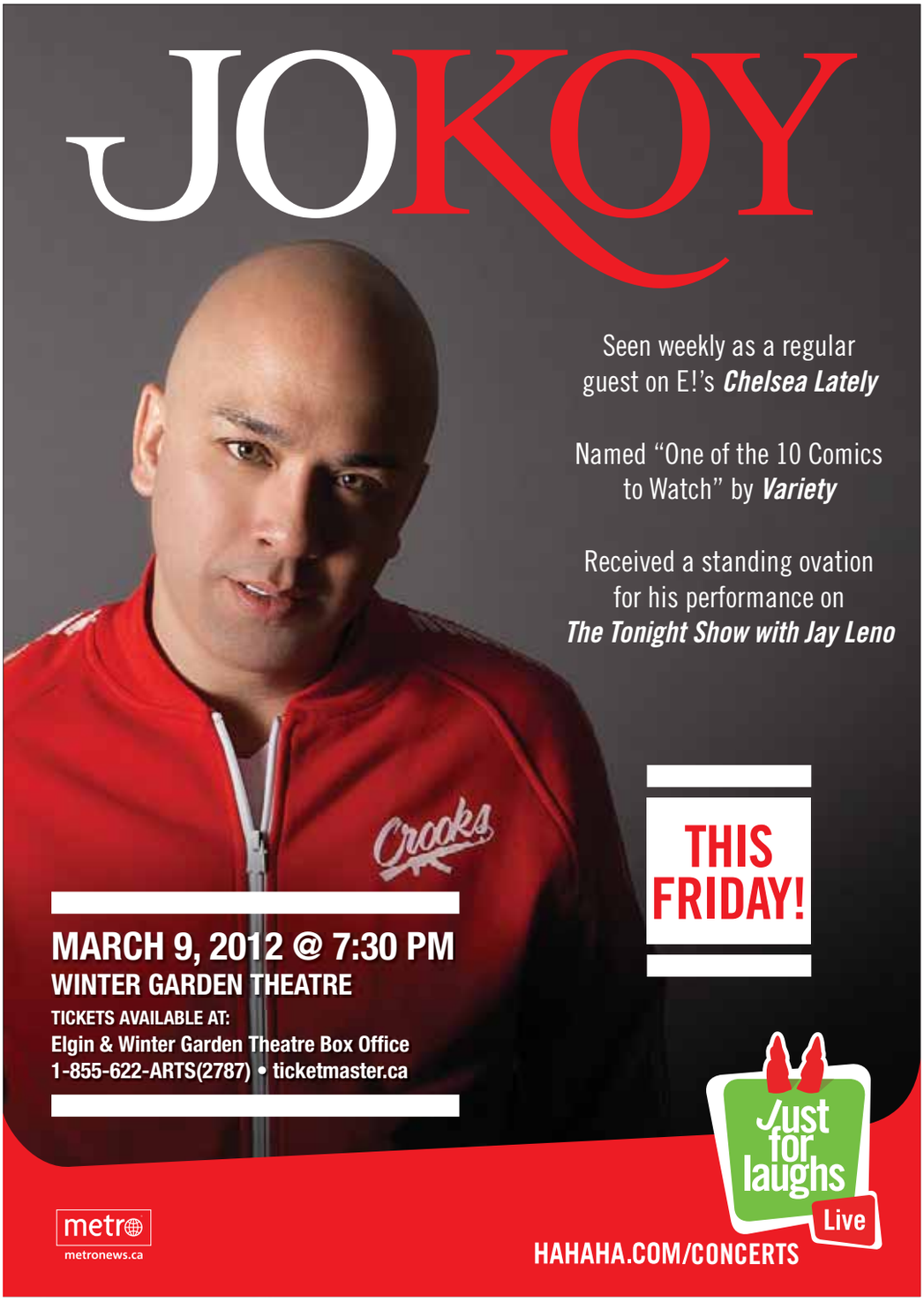
Law-enforcement officials said it marked the first time core members of the loosely organized worldwide hacking group Anonymous have been identified and charged in the U.S.

Monsegur and the other defendants were accused in court papers of hacking into corporations and government agencies around the world. Authorities said their crimes affected more than one million people.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Anonymous

Investigators said Monsegur and the other defendants were associated with the group Anonymous and some were also part of the elite spinoff organization that Monsegur formed last May, Lulz Security or LulzSec.



Supporters of Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney celebrate during a Super Tuesday night gathering in Boston. JUSTIN SULLIVAN/GETTY IMAGES

Romney, Santorum win trio of states

Republican primaries. Front-runner Romney was hoping Super Tuesday would catapult him beyond the reach of his opponents

Mitt Romney and his closest rival for the Republican presidential nomination, Rick Santorum, have each taken three states on so-called Super Tuesday, the biggest single day in the race.

Romney crushed the competition in Massachusetts, where he served as governor for four years, and also handily won Virginia and Vermont.

Santorum, meantime, won in Tennessee and Oklahoma where his stances on hot-button issues play well with those states' Christian evangelical voters, and in North Dakota, where energy is a big issue and the economy is booming thanks to the discovery of the oil-rich Bakken Shale deposit.

"We have won in the West, the Midwest and the South and we're ready to win across this country," Santorum said in a victory speech after taking his two states, pointing out that Romney vastly overspent him in every jurisdiction.

Romney was looking to clear a significant hurdle on Super Tuesday in his dash to secure the presidential nomination while Santorum hoped some electoral triumphs would revive his flagging campaign and keep him nipping at the front-runner's heels.

The well-heeled Romney trailed Santorum in blue-collar Ohio for most of February, and they were neck-and-neck in the Rust Belt state on Tuesday night. A loss in Ohio for either man would represent a crushing blow.

Neither Santorum nor Newt Gingrich, who handily took his home state of Georgia, were on the ballot in Virginia, limiting opportunities for both men to gain ground on Romney, who took 58 per cent of the vote according to early, unofficial results. Ron Paul won 43 per cent.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Republican presidential candidate Newt Gingrich and his wife Callista Gingrich. ALEX WONG/GETTY IMAGES

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Sex. Suburban mom or madam — she's jailed on $2-million bond

Is Anna Gristina a mom — or a madam?

U.S. prosecutors say she's an arrogant multimillion-dollar head of a prostitution ring. They say she has boasted of ties to law enforcement and has stashed cash to flee if authorities close in on her.

But Gristina's advocates portrayed her Tuesday as a dedicated suburban mom, animal rescuer and former real-estate broker who was working on building an online dating service.

The reality is Gristina is jailed on a seven-figure bail on a single charge of promoting prostitution.

Millionaire?

- Prosecutors say Anna Gristina was heard during a five-year investigation saying she'd made millions of dollars over about 15 years of arranging trysts.

"A caring mother of four has been slapped with a $2 million bond," one of her lawyers, Peter Gleason, said after a New York judge refused Tuesday to lower the bail.

Gristina, a bespectacled 44-year-old Scottish immigrant, has pleaded not guilty. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

California

Cannon blast kills woman

A 33-year-old woman died Tuesday after a home-made cannon blew a projectile into a mobile home in a remote California community. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Moldova

Pedophiles face chemical penalty

Foreigners convicted of sexually abusing children in Moldova will be chemically castrated, according to new legislation approved Tuesday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Historic Metro contest will send reader to space

The SXC Lynx spaceship carries two people — the pilot-astronaut and a passenger. ALEX STOKES/FOR METRO

World-beater. Global jury will pick winner of incredible flight

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- **Total prize value is $100,000.**

Hiccups caused by a baby's need for milk: Researcher

A Queen's University researcher has come up with an answer to the perennial question: Why do we hiccup?

In a paper published Tuesday in the journal BioEssays, Dr. Daniel Howes hypothesizes that hiccupping is a way of removing swallowed air from the stomach, much like burping. The reflex has given humans and other mammals an evolutionary advantage because it allows suckling infants to consume a greater volume of milk.

Howes, a physician at Kingston General Hospital and associate professor of emergency medicine at Queen's, has been pondering the question since his undergrad days, when a professor happened to mention that hiccups remained an unexplained phenomenon.

Over the years, Howes came up with the idea that hiccupping is similar to burping, but he was still mystified about the purpose of the reflex. The answered dawned on him a couple of years ago, when he was bottle-feeding his baby daughter.

"I was burping her and after she burped, I could feed her some more. For whatever reason, that's when it came to me," he said.

A new theory about hiccupping suggests it helps an infant consume more milk TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Most reflexes can be explained. For instance, sneezing clears irritants from our noses and coughing expels materials from our airways. But hiccupping has always been an enigma.

One theory suggests that the involuntary spasm of the diaphragm is a throwback to a time when our ancestors had gills to help them breathe.

Some say hiccups are related to fetal development and intended, for example, to strengthen muscles used for respiration.

While there is no proof that Howes's hypothesis is the right one, he hopes it will stimulate more thought about hiccupping. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Age-old question

The cause of hiccups is still up for debate, and the cure remains equally elusive.

- **Achoo!** The ancient Greek physician Hippocrates believed that sneezing would stop a case of hiccups.
- **Boo!** Greek philosopher Plato is credited as being the first to recommend that hiccups could be "scared away" with a sudden thump on the back.
- **In the bag.** Kingston researcher Dr. Daniel Howes says the most one can do to control hiccups is to slow them down by breathing into a paper bag. They typically go away on their own in a short period of time..
- **Caution.** Intractable hiccups that go on for more than 48 hours are rare and can be a symptom of underlying disease, requiring medication or surgery.

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Obama urges diplomacy in Iran nuclear dispute

Politics. U.S., Europe set new talks with Tehran as Israel ponders a military strike on Iranian nuclear facilities within months

Alarmed by rising talk of war, the United States, Europe and other world powers announced Tuesday that bargaining will begin again with Iran over its fiercely disputed nuclear efforts. Tehran, for its part, invited inspectors to see a site suspected of secret atomic weapons work.

In Washington, U.S. President Barack Obama declared he had been working to avert war with Iran during intensive meetings with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu this week. Israel, fearing the prospect of a nuclear Iran, has been stressing a need for possible military action, but Obama said sanctions and diplomacy already were working.

The president rebuffed Republican critics, who say his reluctance to attack Iran is a sign of weakness, holding up the spectre of more dead Americans in another Middle East war. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A year later

European Union foreign policy chief Catherine Ashton said the five permanent members of the UN Security Council and Germany had agreed to a new round of nuclear talks with Iran more than a year after suspending them in frustration.

- **Previous talks** have not resolved international suspicions that Iran is engaging in a nuclear-energy program as cover for an eventual plan to build a bomb.
- **The negotiating group** also has failed to strike a deal for Iran to stop enriching uranium that might one day be turned into bomb fuel.

U.S. President Barack Obama speaks during a news conference at the White House in Washington yesterday. PABLO MARTINEZ MONSIVAIS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Giant Condoms march for neuter cause

PETA campaigners, dressed up as condoms to encourage people to spay or neuter their pets, demonstrate along Spring Garden Road in Halifax yesterday afternoon. PETA members from Ottawa are touring cities in Atlantic Canada to spread their message. RYAN TAPLIN/METRO HALIFAX

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Bin Laden burial in doubt: Leaks

Intelligence breach. WikiLeaks-published emails from 'shadow CIA' query official story of whereabouts of bin Laden's body

Osama bin Laden's body may not have been buried at sea after all, according to leaked emails written by a senior official at the intelligence firm Stratfor.

The emails were part of a massive WikiLeaks operation that in February began publishing information from Stratfor Global Intelligence, a U.S.-based firm that describes itself as "a publisher of geopolitical analysis." It has been likened by some to a "shadow CIA."

Director Kathryn Bigelow on the set of her film Zero Dark Thirty, based on the hunt for bin Laden, in India on Tuesday.
KAPIL SETHI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The data was obtained by the hacker group Anonymous. It successfully attacked one of the firm's servers, allegedly stealing more than five million emails.

The U.S. government's official position is that after the al-Qaida leader was killed in Pakistan during a raid on his compound on May 2, 2011, his body was buried at sea in a proper Muslim ceremony in an undisclosed spot.

But Fred Burton, vice-president of intelligence at the Stratfor, wrote in a May 2 email sent from his BlackBerry that he believed bin Laden's "body bound for Dover, DE on CIA plane. Than (sic) onward to the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology in Bethesda."

In another email, Burton wrote: "If body dumped at sea, which I doubt, the touch is very Adolph Eichman (sic) like. The Tribe did the same thing with the Nazi's ashes. We would want to photograph, DNA, fingerprint, etc. His body is a crime scene and I don't see the FBI nor DOJ letting that happen."

Eichmann was one of the architects of the Holocaust by Nazi Germany during the Second World War. He was captured by Israel's secret service in Argentina and put on trial in Israel. He was found guilty and later executed.

Stratfor's founder and CEO George Friedman replied: "Eichmann was seen alive for many months on trial before being sentenced to death and executed. No one wanted a monument to him so they cremated him. But I don't know anyone who claimed he wasn't eicjhman (sic). No comparison with suddenly burying him at sea without any chance to view him, which I doubt happened."

In another email Burton wrote: "The U.S. government needs to make body pics available like the MX's do, with OBL's pants pulled down, to shout down the lunatics like Alex Jones and Glenn Beck."

Body as 'crime scene'

"If body dumped at sea, which I doubt, the touch is very Adolph Eichman (sic) like.... We would want to photograph, DNA, fingerprint, etc. His body is a crime scene and I don't see the FBI nor DOJ letting that happen." Fred Burton, VP of intelligence for Stratfor, in an email

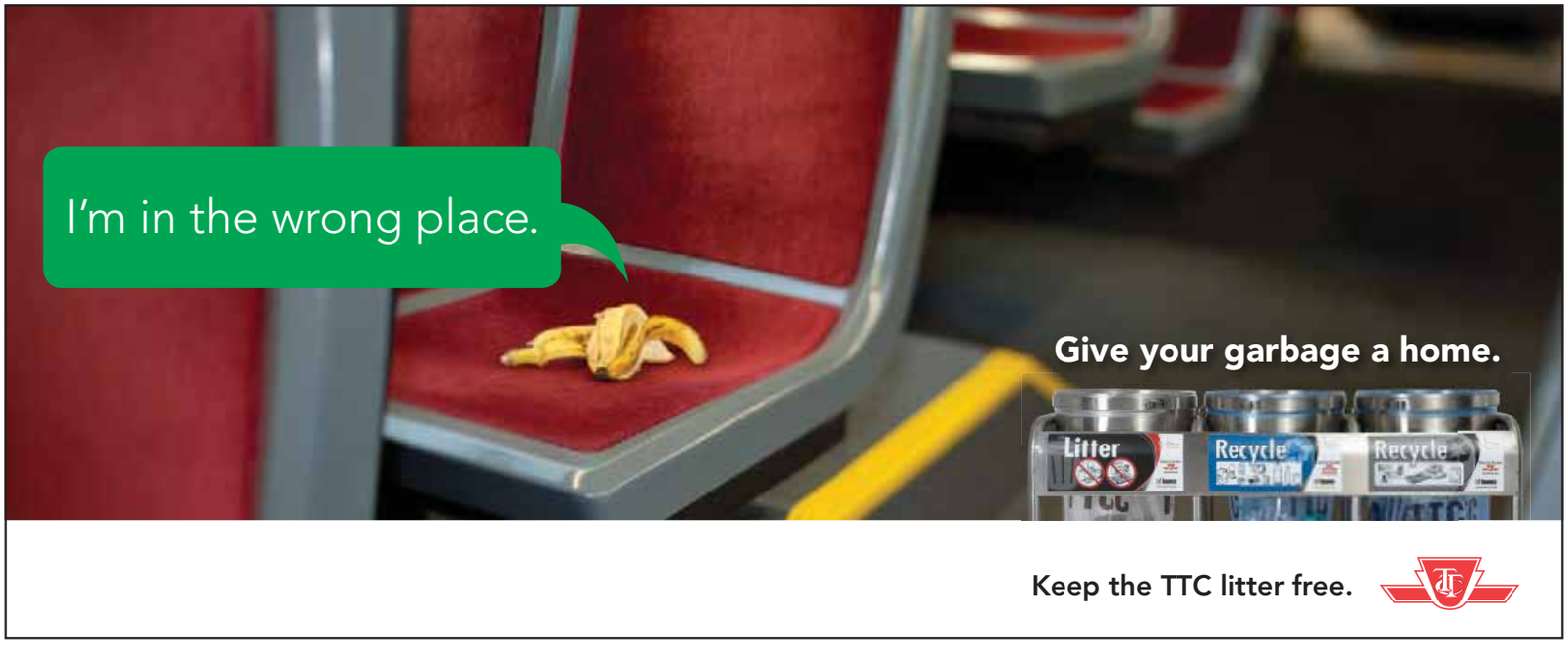
Stratfor CEO on leak

- **George Friedman said that he believes the release of these emails is "a direct attack on Stratfor" and "another attempt to silence and intimidate the company, and one we reject.** As you can see, emails sent to many people about my resignation were clearly forged."
- **"We do not know what else has been manufactured.** Stratfor will not be silenced, and we will continue to publish the geopolitical analysis our friends and subscribers have come to rely on."
- **He added: "Stratfor is not a government organization, nor is it affiliated with any government.** The emails are private property. Like all private emails, they were written casually, with no expectation that anyone other than the sender and recipient would ever see them. And clearly, as with my supposed resignation letter, some of the emails may be fabricated or altered."

Stratfor's Friedman issued a statement when WikiLeaks first began publishing the emails, calling the theft and publication of the emails a "deplorable, unfortunate — and illegal — breach of privacy."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Osama bin Laden is seen in this April 1998 file photo taken in Afghanistan. Doubts have been



raised about whether bin Laden's body was actually buried at sea. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

'Crazy' offer to help find teen

An Alaskan strip-club owner with a colourful past is offering up the use of his club for free for a year in exchange for information that will hopefully lead to finding a missing 18-year-old Anchorage woman.

Terry Stahlman, 69, who runs the Showboat Show Club, said he was so shocked by the kidnapping of Samantha Koenig that he felt he had to do something.

The former felon and recovering addict told the Toronto Star he was "hoping to make a difference" and help find Koenig.

"I came up here like a lot of people do,i looking for another shot at life," Stahlman said. "I got that shot.... I want to do my part. I'm a father. It's a crazy idea, but why not do it?"

Koenig was abducted from the Common Grounds espresso bar, where she worked as a barista while she was closing it Feb. 1, according to the Anchorage Police Department.

Surveillance video shows an armed male leaving with her on foot, police say. But the video isn't clear enough to identify the abductor, said Lt. Dave Parker, a spokesperson for the police department.

The video of the abduction has not been released pending the investigation, he added.

"We're still hoping and believing we can find Samantha." **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

James and Shirley Koenig at a vigil for James' missing daughter last month.
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Generation Y. Thinking of buying a new car? Ask your kids for their advice

Generation Y has become the biggest buying force in the marketplace, filling their closets to bursting with brands and advising their parents on what cars to buy, vacations to take and even what clothes they should wear.

Their parents are listening.

"I think the big difference is that parents have asked this generation their opinion since they were old enough to speak," says Kit Yarrow, author of Gen Buy: How Tweens, Teens, and Twenty-Somethings are Revolutionizing Retail.

"Parents today care more what their kids think. They consider their kids to be knowledgeable about trends."

Yarrow addressed a meeting of about 400 retailers and marketers on Tuesday to kick off the 2012 Strategy Shopper Marketing Forum in Toronto.

There has never been a shopping generation like Generation Y, according to Yarrow, a consumer psychologist. She says as many as 80 per cent of family vehicle purchases are influenced by teenagers.

Yarrow includes people born between 1980 and 2000 as part of Generation Y — about 83 million people in the U.S.

Y so influential?

"They're huge — a bigger demographic than Baby Boomers. They spend more money and they're more enthusiastic shoppers."

Kit Yarrow, consumer pyschologist

Yarrow believes the shift in the balance of power came about in part because the traditional hierarchy — in which parents made most major decisions — has been flattened out by our child-centered society.

Children gained authority in the home during the 1980s and 1990s, when they essentially provided in-house tech support to parents baffled by VCRs. Parents have since caught up with technology, but they're still seeking advice from their kids.

Their children are, after all, shopping experts. Their brains are wired for speed. They are more easily bored, shop 24-7 and believe that new is better, that innovation is cool.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Gen Y: They'll eat anything

Trend analyst Kara Nielsen says Generation Y has an adventurous palate. The cohort grew up in a booming multicultural society during the '80s and '90s, so it should not surprise anyone that Generation Y is up for eating different foods. "They have grown up on global foods and are very accustomed to them," says Nielsen. HANDOUT/THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Desktops: Down, definitely not out

Tech. Forget your fancy new iPad 3 — experts say the humble desktop has a future

Amid the buzz of Apple's iPad 3 launch Wednesday, one could be forgiven for assuming that the humble desktop had all but vanished. But according to technology experts, the desktop will be part of our computing world for the foreseeable future, even if its market share is shrinking.

Between 2000 and 2011, the desktop's share of the personal-computing market fell from 83 per cent to just 41 per cent, according to Mikako Kitagawa, principal analyst at U.S.-based technology research firm Gartner. (Those figures include desktops and laptops, but not smartphones or tablet computers.)

Still, said Kitagawa, there are plenty of reasons the desktop will be sticking around.

"There will always be users who just prefer to use a desktop," said Kitagawa, pointing to heavy-duty gamers or people editing video. Some people also simply prefer the larger screen found in desktops to those in smart phones or tablets, Kitagawa added.

For corporations concerned about keeping costs down, desktops are also a more attractive option than laptops.

That same reason — cost — will also keep desktops thriving in emerging economies for the foreseeable future, Kitagawa said.

Even if the desktop's market share has fallen, there's still plenty of life in it from a financial point of view, argues veteran tech-industry observer Duncan Stewart, head of IT research at Deloitte Canada.

"A hundred and forty million anything is actually quite a lot. It's still a $70-billion-a-year market," said Stewart,

Of course, both desktops and laptops face increasing competition from mobile devices, but Stewart points to statistics showing that roughly 90 per cent of the time people spend on computers is on either a desktop or a laptop.

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JUST SAYIN'
Paul Sullivan
metronews.ca/justsaying

The next time you feel the urge to buy a lottery ticket, blame Louise White.

She's the little 81-year-old lady from Rhode Island who won $336.4 million after she bought the winning ticket at a Stop & Shop.

And now she has all her money in what she calls the Rainbow Sherbet Trust in honour of the sherbet she bought along with the ticket.

Louise White STEW MILNE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

At first, she couldn't believe her good fortune, at one point turning off her computer and turning it back on again. The numbers were still the same. She kept the winning ticket in her Bible until it was time to claim her prize.

Ain't that cute?

I hate Louise White.

Just when I've finally made a rational decision to stop throwing perfectly good money down the toilet, never to be spent again, someone like Louise White pops up. Even though there's a one-in-175,223,510 chance of winning the Powerball, Louise won it anyway. I mean there's as much chance of Louise winning the Powerball lottery as there is of that rainbow sherbet winning the Powerball lottery.

So, starting today, it's back to throwing good money down the toilet. If you don't play, it don't pay — or something.

My wife, who never fails to buy a lottery ticket for the 6-49 or Lotto Max, spends the rest of the week figuring out how she's going to spend the money. IMHO, she always gives too much of it away. Right off the bat, half goes to "Africa," while the rest goes to pay the debts of everyone in her extended family, leaving insufficient funds to keep me in the lifestyle to which I could easily become accustomed.

Just imagine?

My wife, who never fails to buy a lottery ticket for the 6-49 or Lotto Max, spends the rest of the week figuring out how she's going to spend the money. IMHO, she always gives too much of it away.

It never occurs to me, until halfway into the argument, that it's not going to happen anyway and I'm getting all red in the face for nothing, when there are lots of more important things I could get red in the face about.

Still, consider LeRoy and Deborah, Louise's son and daughter-in-law. LeRoy and Deborah didn't even have to fork over two bucks to buy the ticket, and now they're the beneficiaries of Louise's good fortune. I wonder if they ever had the argument. My wife is aware of my vulnerable position. "No money for you," she warns.

Fair warning: The odds of winning the Lotto Max are much better than winning the Powerball. Only one in 85,900,584. More than twice as likely. Of course, the odds of being struck by lightning are only 2.3 million to one. The odds of being hit by an ice-cream delivery truck full of rainbow sherbet are only one in 625.

Which reminds me to look both ways before I cross the street. On my way to the lottery kiosk.

Usain, is this how you do it?

GETTY IMAGES

World's fastest

Strike a pose

KINGSTON, JAMAICA. It's practice makes perfect for Prince Harry as the third-in-line to the British throne tries to copy the signature victory pose of sprint star Usain Bolt at the University of the West Indies track.

Harry, 27, is touring the Caribbean as part of the Diamond Jubilee. **MWN**

A race to the finish

Prince Harry wins

RACE. The prince got off to a false start and was about 50 metres down the track as Bolt lifted his arms in mock disbelief.

Harry kept on running to cross the finish line. "He cheated," Bolt said. "I said we would have a rematch in London 2012 and Harry said, 'I'm busy.'" **MWN**

Metropolitan Panel

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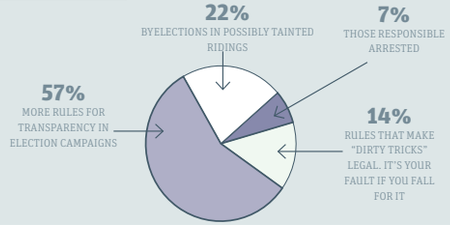
What do you most want to see come out of the "robocalls" investigation?

Survey says...



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@MSSwatcher:
From Murdoch to Harper, @BritishMonarchy is MI5 interfering w Canada's democratic process? #cdnpoli #robocalls

@FabioT_V1:
If the #CPC is innocent and has nothing to hide why prevent ElectionsCanada from being able to request information? #cdnpoli #robocalls

@KardynylSyn:
Dear #Toronto media: please stop trying to screw @MapleLeafs GM Brian Burke over. Ferguson and Fletcher left little in the cupboard for him.

@HayesTSN:
Crosby cleared for contact & expected back soon? Peyton cut & hitting free agency? These 2 have owned the headlines all year, why stop now?

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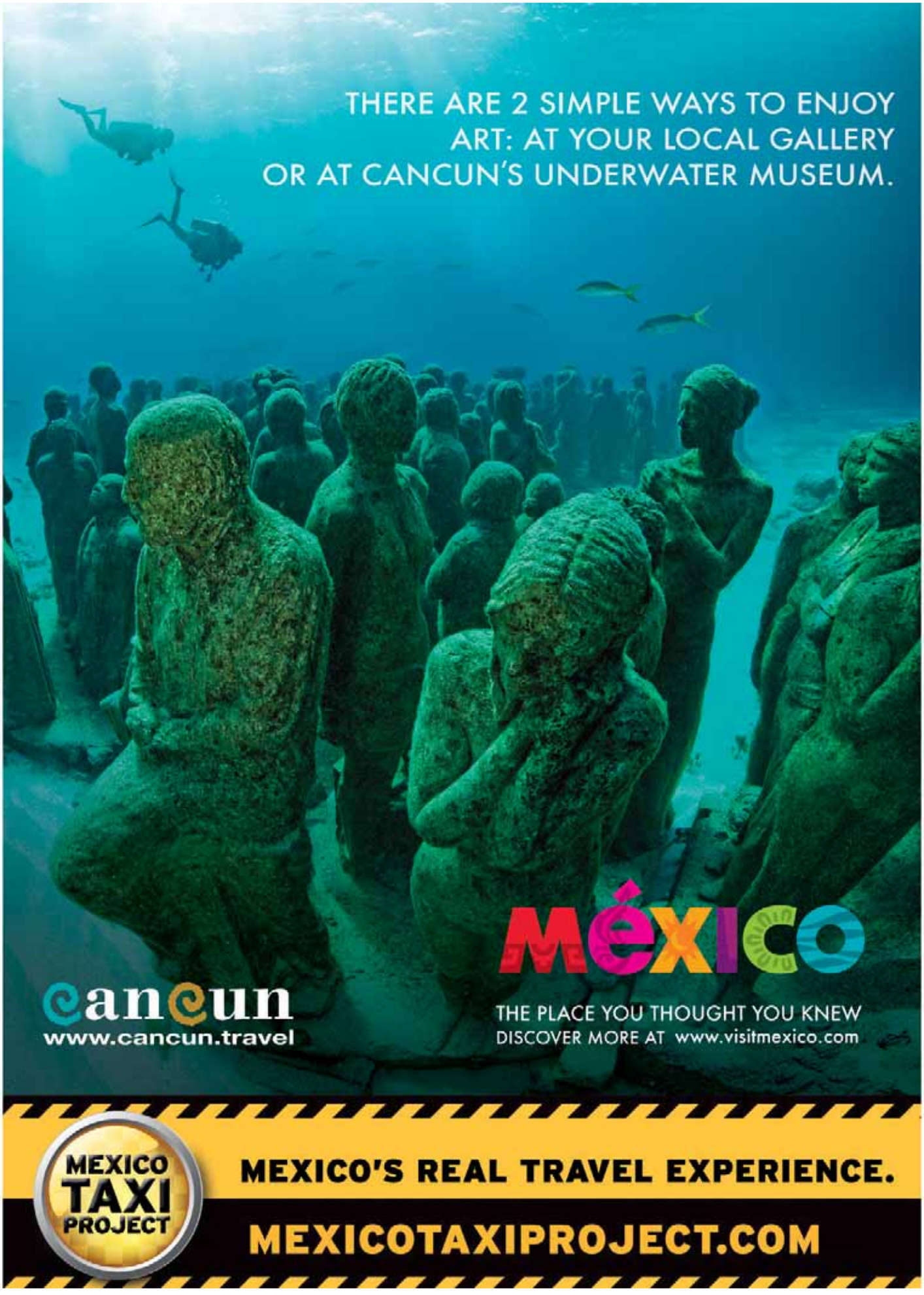
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Stage Notes

Get on the Horse, of course

JONATHAN NAYMARK
sceneopolis.com

As if further proving Toronto's continued importance as a theatre town, the Mirvish production of the acclaimed show War Horse marks the third city that this musical has played in after London and New York.

War Horse, which has recently been made into a Steven Spielberg-directed movie, is an emotional play based on the 1982 book of the same name, written by children's author Michael Morpurgo.

War Horse follows the story of young Albert, whose horse is sold into the French Cavalry on the eve of the First World War. Although Albert is too young to enlist in the army he secretly does so in an attempt to rescue Joey from the horrors of the battlefield.

The true magic of the play, however, lies in the recreation of the titular horses. Massive puppets made by the South African Handspring Puppet Company render the horses almost life-like. Each horse is made up of several dancers and their ability to seamlessly work together makes it easy to forget that there aren't real steeds on stage.

War Horse is now playing at Toronto's Princess of Wales Theatre. Catch this horse quickly!

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Eddie Murphy stars in A Thousand Words. HANDOUT

Go gaga for gurus

Spiritual humour. Comedy mixed with spirituality can work if done well — or prove toxic for both audiences and critics

IN FOCUS
Richard Crouse
scene@metronews.ca

What do spiritual gurus and comedy have in common? More than you might think.

Deepak Chopra, possibly the world's most famous guru, says, "When your soul responds to the paradox of our existence, to the contradictions of our existence, to the fact that wherever there is joy there is suffering, when your soul recognizes this, it can do nothing except laugh."

In other words, chuckle — it's good for your soul.

These are words to live by, particularly if you are Eddie Murphy in A Thousand Words, opening this weekend. In this comedy, Murphy plays a shady literary agent who cheats a spiritual guru in a business deal. His punishment teaches him the value of every word that comes out of his mouth.

A Thousand Words isn't the first comedy to go gaga for gurus.

In the 1968 counter-culture hit I Love You, Alice B. Toklas!, Peter Sellers plays a 30-something who visits a maharishi for enlightenment. "You will know yourself when you stop trying," he is told. "I'm trying to stop trying," Sellers replies.

A year later came The Guru, a movie that echoed the real-life musical journey of Beatle George Harrison's internship with Ravi Shankar. Michael York starred as a famous British rock 'n' roller who travels from London to Bombay to study sitar at the feet of guru Ustad Zafar Khan.

Director James Ivory (who along with producer Ismail Merchant would go on to make Howard's End and The Remains of the Day) called The Guru "the most unseen and mysterious of our movies … Merchant Ivory's version of a '60s trip."

Sharing a title is the 2002 Jimi Mistry film about a young Indian man who moves to New York with dreams of becoming an actor but instead becomes a sex guru who doles out catchphrases such as, "the most powerful sexual organ is your brain."

In The Love Guru, Mike Myers mixed gross-out humour with spiritualism, a combo that proved toxic for both audiences and critics.

Even Mike's own guru agreed it flopped. "Humour mixed with spirituality can work, if it's done well," Deepak Chopra, who has a cameo in the film, said. "But frankly speaking, this was not a good attempt."

So what exactly do gurus and comedy have in common? Myers says he learned from Chopra that "ha ha" is related to "ah ha," the sound one makes upon the realization of truth." Maybe it's that simple.

2 SCENE

Trending

Get ready for iPad 3

Apple is set to unveil its iPad 3 at an invite-only event today. Metro has teamed up with Mike Yawney, the technology specialist with Citytv, to bring you the latest from the event. Visit metronews.ca/apple to follow Yawney as he tweets live from the announcement.

On the Web

Scan this code or visit metronews.ca/apple for more on the iPad 3 launch.

O.A.R. reaffirm connection to one another with King

Hardship reminds band why they do what they do. Positive vibes and palpable sincerity sprinkled throughout their latest effort

PAT HEALY
scene@metronews.ca

If listeners perceive a previously unheard gravitas beneath the bouncy grooves and anthemic choruses of the new O.A.R. album, that's because while working on King, the band went through dark times.

Singer and guitarist Marc Roberge says that his wife's diagnosis with cancer and her subsequent successful treatment gave new meaning to soul-searching verses he had already been working on.

Not only did the hardship serve as a lyrical litmus test of sorts, but the experience also made him realize how important the band he started with his friends in high school really is to him.

"I went into the album with every intention of writing about somebody who has come to this realization, you know, somebody who has realized that you can't live your life constantly out there searching for something — at some point you've got to just look right around you at everything that's within arm's reach," he says.

"In the middle of the record-making process, when everything started to happen on the home front, it really solidified it — but at the same time it made me realize how full of it I was. It's really good to talk about that — it's kind of cool to put out positive quotes — but until you really have to, it's all just words."

The music on King certainly does put out the positive vibes, and there is a palpable sting of sincerity as Roberge sings lines like, "I know you've got my back," against a reggae rhythm in Fire, and "everything we got is everything we need" in Heaven.

"You have this dream when you're 15 that you want to be on the road," says Roberge.

"Then life goes on, and you're in a band for 15 years, you have kids and all these brothers in the band. It becomes very difficult to balance the world of travel and home. You get tested every single tour, and you really have to love it. … And it turned out, when it got hard, everyone still wanted to get the music out there."

Analysis

Small shows to have a big impact

This upcoming string of shows marks the first headlining dates in NYC since selling out Madison Square Garden in 2009 for O.A.R., whose name stands for Of A Revolution. Instead of playing bigger venues, the members of O.A.R. decided that they wanted to play multiple nights at smaller venues.

"We'll go in there and play almost every song we've ever had," says Roberge. "We're going to try to write songs onstage. It's going to be completely loose. We're going to bring in some special guests. … We really want to connect with our very close fan base."

O.A.R. is finding their legs again on their latest album / GETTY IMAGES

Music review

Bruce Springsteen

Album. Wrecking Ball

Label. Columbia Records

Nearly three decades ago, Bruce Springsteen wrote with sadness about a man showing his young son a hometown ravaged by outside economic forces, a town the family was about to leave. He's not sad now. He's angry, mighty angry. On the new song, Death to My Hometown, he wants to "send the robber barons straight to hell, the greedy thieves who came around and ate the flesh of everything they found, whose crimes have gone unpunished now, who walk the streets as free men now." With economic injustice, Springsteen's powerful new disc has a subject he can sink his teeth into, and he matches it with music that has some of the same clenched fury. This is not an E Street Band record. Steve Van Zandt, Nils Lofgren, Roy Bittan and Garry Tallent are not among the 31 credited musicians. Springsteen sounds creatively energized working with new sounds and with some new people, most notably producer Ron Aniello, guitarist Tom Morello and singer Michelle Moore. The title track is about the tearing down of Giants Stadium, an arena Springsteen made his own over many years yet it provides a line that best sums up the singer's message on this disc: "Hold tight to your anger," he sings. "And don't fall to your fears."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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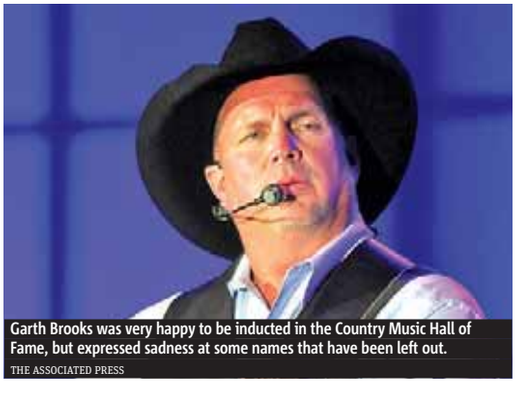
Brooks laments friends in low places



Garth Brooks was very happy to be inducted in the Country Music Hall of Fame, but expressed sadness at some names that have been left out.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

An emotional Garth Brooks said his addition to the Country Music Hall of Fame at 50 is probably a little premature when you look at the long list of his influences who haven't yet been inducted.

The Friends in Low Places singer transformed country music, but on Tuesday he was more interested in talking about the singers who transformed him. Brooks spoke during a news conference to announce he will be inducted later this year with singer Connie Smith and keyboard player Hargus "Pig" Robbins.

"You're excited," Brooks said. "You feel very honoured. But at the same time there's this kind of guilt or, I don't know what it is, a kind of embarrassment, so you feel uneasy because I wouldn't be standing here today talking to you if it wasn't for Randy Travis. I wouldn't be standing here talking to you today if it wasn't for Ricky Skaggs, Keith Whitley, Steve Wariner, these guys. … I think eventually they will get in, but it probably should've been before Garth Brooks came in. That's the whole feeling for the day."

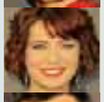
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WHAT'S **NEXT** IN TELEVISION?

Twitter

@ActuallyNPH
That Kirk Cameron is hilarious!

@oliviawilde
Pretty cool to be shooting on the same stage as The Big Sleep. And Space Jam



@diablocody
Just listened to "Come Undone" by Duran Duran in the car. Sexiest thing I had ever heard in junior high.

@SethMacFarlane
I hear babies cry. I watch them grow. They'll learn much more than I'll ever know. And I think to myself: who brought babies to this bar?

Kirk Cameron's former Growing Pains co-stars won't show him that smile

Born-again Christian and former Growing Pains star Kirk Cameron recently told CNN's Piers Morgan that being gay is "unnatural," "detrimental" and "ultimately destructive to so many of the foundations of civilization," and his remarks have earned him a considerable amount of blowback.

Among those criticizing Cameron? His former sitcom co-stars.

Tracy Gold posted to Twitter, "I am a strong supporter of the LGBT Community, and I believe in equal rights for all."

Meanwhile Alan Thicke, who played Cameron and Gold's father on Growing Pains, posted, "I'm getting him some new books. The Old Testament simply can't be expected to explain everything." **METRO**

Kirk Cameron

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

Reality star off the rails

Tila Tequila: Was it an aneurysm, overdose or suicide attempt?

THE WORD
Dorothy Robinson
scene@metronews.ca

Was Tila Tequila's recent hospitalization due to a brain aneurysm, a drug overdose or a suicide attempt? Whatever the reason, the former reality star is all kinds of WTF.

Radar Online is saying that a brain aneurysm made her "think irrationally" and ingest "two bottles of unspecified heavy prescription drugs."

"Tila threw up all over her bed after overdosing and felt like she was dying. She was screaming for help, and in desperation, broke her bedroom window and attempted to jump out," a source says.

"Finally, a friend came over after getting a strange text from her and found her convulsing on the bed. He called an ambulance and she was taken to the hospital."

Reports say Tequila was treated at two different hospitals over a week's span, but she's not out of the woods yet.

"She still can't fully speak properly," the source says. "It's sad to think she may have some permanent brain damage." But TMZ.com says all the drama was caused by a suicide attempt and that she'd been trying "kill herself all week."

We've said it once, we'll say it a million times: Mamas, don't let your daughters grow up to be reality TV stars.

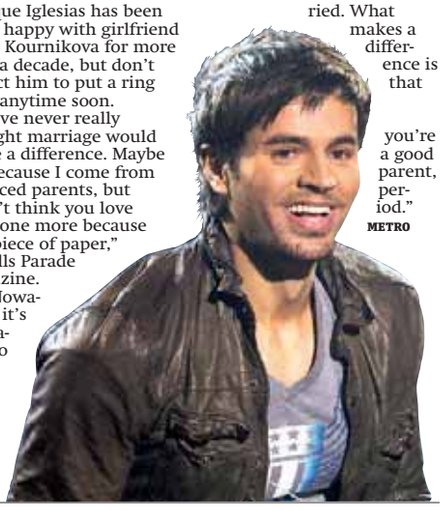
Tila Tequila ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Enrique's not a big believer in marriage

Enrique Iglesias has been quite happy with girlfriend Anna Kournikova for more than a decade, but don't expect him to put a ring on it anytime soon.

"I've never really thought marriage would make a difference. Maybe it's because I come from divorced parents, but I don't think you love someone more because of a piece of paper," he tells Parade magazine.

"Nowadays, it's not taboo to have kids and not be married. What makes a difference is that you're a good parent, period." **METRO**



Demi looking stronger and sun-kissed after her vacay, time in rehab

After a stint in rehab in Utah followed by a private Caribbean vacation, Demi Moore is back in Los Angeles, according to TMZ.

The actress was photographed stepping off a private jet looking tan and healthy.

Moore had departed from Nassau in the Bahamas and passed through Customs in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., before heading on to California.

This is the first time Moore has been home since shortly after being rushed to the hospital following a drug-related collapse in January. **METRO**

Demi Moore

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3 LIFE

Travel in brief

Flower power

If you are looking for palm trees and white sand to escape the remnants of winter, look no farther than Philadelphia. Visitors to the city's International Flower Show can wander through a tropical paradise of sorts thanks to this year's theme, Hawaii: Islands of Aloha. The weeklong horticultural extravaganza opens Sunday. Exhibits include a fantasy surf shack, a beach wedding, a 7.5-metre-tall waterfall and a tribute to Pele, the Hawaiian goddess of fire.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

On the Web

Florida Keys offer rare motorcycle ride into the sun, over the sea

Palm Springs has a casual vibe not found in Hollywood. GOINGSLO/ FLICKR

The stars are brighter near the Mojave Desert

Palm Springs. The Travellin' Canadian checks out a Hollywood mecca

THE TRAVELLIN' CANADIAN
Darren Parkman
travel@metronews.ca

If you go...

- **Hit the hot tub at Palm Mountain Resort and Spa.** The perfect spot to unwind in the radiance of the desert sun, just steps from Palm Canyon Drive downtown.
- **Visit the Village Pub.** Great live music and cheap drinks at this little pub. One of my favourite places in town!

Darren Parkman with Clint Eastwood in Palm Springs DARREN PARKMAN

There's more to Palm Springs than dusty desert and palm trees. In fact, this sunny vacation paradise has become a mecca for the rich and famous.

Not only did the city's late great celeb mayor Sunny Bono recreate Hollywood, with the California city's own walk of fame, he ushered in one of the most impressive film festivals in North America, right there in the middle of the Mojave.

It was a thrill for me to actually get a chance to hit the red carpet and hobnob with some of the biggest stars on the planet at a recent desert festival. The likes of none other than Leonardo DiCaprio and Clint Eastwood told me that even they were impressed with this desert oasis and what it's become. Palm Springs just has that laid back casual vibe, so it's not uncommon to see A-list celebs strolling on nearby Palm Canyon Drive, or having a drink at the very cool mid-century modern Parker Hotel, where the famous stay and play. Of course, stars have been linked to Palm Springs for many decades, and traces of that early Hollywood history still remain. Just off Palm Canyon drive, you can stroll by an unassuming house with a giant 'L' statue in the driveway. This happened to be the home of — you guessed it — flamboyant performer Liberace, who spent many happy years in the desert.

Nearby sits many other celeb getaways from a bygone era, including the homes of Kirk Douglas, Dean Martin and Marilyn Monroe. You can even rent the unassuming little rancher used by Elvis for his honeymoon with Priscilla back in the '60s. Many of the "Springs" famous old school watering holes and restaurants like Le Valeris and Melvin's have their walls covered with pics of famous regulars like Sinatra and Sammy Davis Jr.

Even the city's Desert Memorial Graveyard has become a bit of a notorious tourist attraction, where many come to pay their respects to the final resting place of Frank Sinatra.

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Walmart heiress draws art fans to the heartland of America

Crystal Bridges. New museum in Arkansas houses some of the most important pieces in the history of the United States

Crystal Bridges is regarded as the most important museum to open in the U.S. in decades, and it has done so in a city of 35,000 in the Ozark Mountains that's served by a single interstate highway that terminates in the middle of town, not far from the headquarters of Walmart Stores Inc.

More than 175,000 people have made their way to the museum in the less than four months since it opened Nov. 11.

The museum serves a busy corridor of four cities in northwest Arkansas that has nearly 500,000 people, and it's just a few minutes away from the Northwest Arkansas Regional Airport. Hotels are plentiful in the area and an upscale 21c Museum Hotel is under construction within walking distance of the museum. So far, zip code surveys of visitors show that the majority of guests — more than 80 per cent — have come from Arkansas, according to statistics provided by the museum.

The Crystal Bridges collection was amassed by Walmart heiress Alice Walton, who used her fortune to stock the galleries with paintings and sculptures that reflect the nation's artistic development and its history, from colonial times to the present. By virtue of a $20-million grant from Walmart, admission is free, as are audio tours of the collection. Some special exhibitions, none of which have yet been announced, may carry a fee.

The regular collection starts with early American paintings and moves forward chronologically. The first view offers a look at a Charles Willson Peale portrait of George Washington, the general in uniform, posed with his hand on a cannon. But in closer view is a landscape by John Taylor and a painting in classical style, Cupid and Psyche, by Benjamin West.

Farther down is the museum's centrepiece, Asher Durand's Kindred Spirits, bought by Walton in 2005 for a reported $35 million, removing the ethereal scene in the Catskill Mountains from its longtime home in the New York Public Library.

That purchase and a number of others drew howls from critics who didn't want to see beloved pieces moved to an unlikely spot in the nation's heartland. But many of the works, purchased by Walton from private collections, have never been on public display before. Organizers noted during the previews that the museum's collection is just getting started. Forbes magazine lists Walton as the 10th wealthiest American with $20.9 billion to her name.

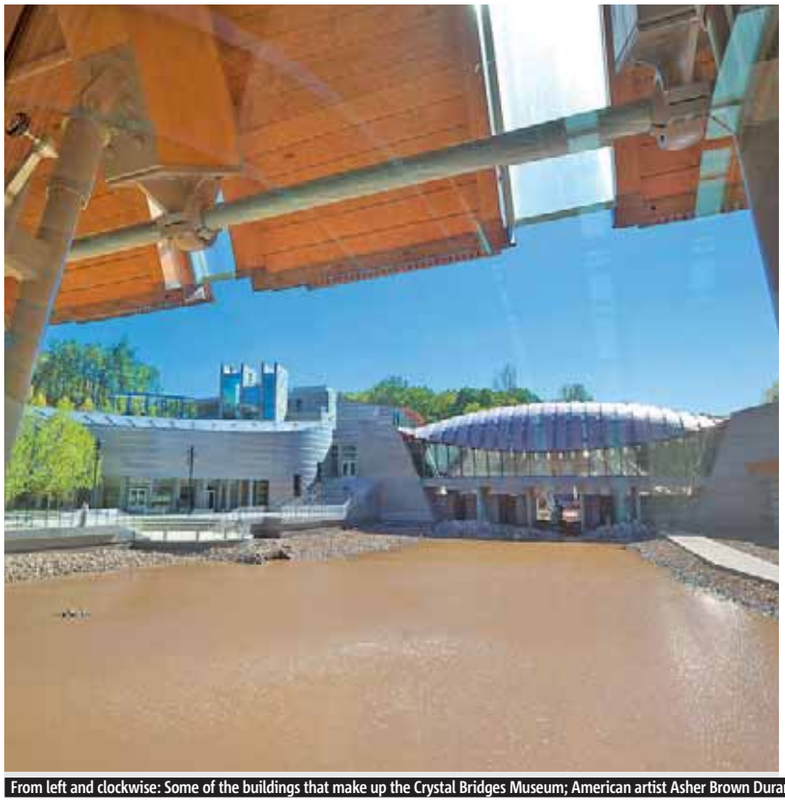
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

If you go...

Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art

- **Address.** 600 Museum Way, Bentonville, Ark.
- **Contact.** crystalbridges.org; 479-418-5700.
- **Hours.** Closed Tuesdays. Other days open 11 a.m.-6 p.m. and until 9 p.m. on Wednesdays and Fridays. Trails and grounds open sunrise to sunset. Free admission.

Visitors take in a sculpture at the museum. CHUCK BARTELS /THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



From left and clockwise: Some of the buildings that make up the Crystal Bridges Museum; American artist Asher Brown Durand's painting Kindred Spirits; Andy Warhol's Dolly Parton and Devorah Sperber's After The Last Supper THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Mexico City bids adieu to its beloved Bug taxis

Change. The last of the iconic VW vehicles were manufactured in 2003. Their taxi licenses expire this year

Mexico's capital is ready to stomp out its iconic Volkswagen "Bug" taxis.

Officials said last week that the last of the old-style VW Beetles will have their cab licences expire by the end of the year, marking the end of an adventurous if uncomfortable part of Mexico City life.

The rounded, two-door sedan nicknamed the Bug — in Mexico, it's a "Vocho" — has long been an informal symbol of this sprawling city; a tough, rattling reflection of its gritty urbanity and chaotic streets.

At its height in 2006, the little VWs accounted for almost half of all taxis in Mexico City, with about 50,000 cruising the streets. Today, there are only about 3,500 of the privately owned and operated Bugs among 130,000 taxis.

Victor Ramirez, director of taxi services for the city's transport department, said time has run out for the classic VW design that evolved from the original Beetle of 1930s Germany.

The model hasn't been manufactured since 2003, when the last one rolled off an assembly line in the Mexican state of Puebla.

For safety reasons, Mexico City began mandating four-door taxis in 2003. So the Beetles that entered service in 2002 are the last to operate as cabs. Most car models are limited by the city to eight years of service as taxis, but the Bug was allowed a 10-year run — and that ends with 2012.

Despite their role as icons, the VW taxis have never won plaudits for comfort. Drivers remove the front passenger seat so customers can get in more easily, leaving only the ungenerous back seat.

And with no front seat, there is little to stop the passenger from being thrown forward in a mishap, Ramirez noted.

"If they slammed on the brakes and you weren't wearing a seat belt, you wound up in the windshield," he said. "The government mandated four-door cars, with trunks, to ensure passengers' safety."

For a time, in the 1990s and early 2000s, Bug taxis were notorious as a robbery trap. Because there were only two doors, muggers or kidnappers could push their way through the passenger door, leaving the passenger no way to escape.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The elimination of the Bug taxi in Mexico City marks the end of an era. GREGORY BULL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Time has run out for the classic Volkswagen design that evolved from the original Beetle of the 1930s. MINAME/FLICKR

Analysis

Little engine that could

Many people felt a pang of nostalgia for the Bug after Friday's announcement, even while acknowledging the little car's shortcomings.

"It's a loss — not exactly for its comfort, but because it was economical" to operate, said Hector Vera Perez, who was a cabbie in the 1970s.

Vera Perez, now a 65-year-old ambulance driver, said the Vocho was much cheaper to run than the big American cars that made up the majority of the city's taxi fleet in those days.

He also argued that the Bugs made the city's streets safer, noting they were slow, fragile and noisy. "Today the cars (used as taxis) are bigger, and they drive faster," he said.

"Before, they drove more cautiously, because any accident would destroy them."

Albuquerque's Sandia Mountain is so named for the pink sunset colours (sandia means watermelon in Spanish). ISTOCK

Albuquerque: big city in an even bigger state

New Mexico. City with a southwest flavour has lots to offer families, foodies and the highfalutin'

SARA BRADY
travel@metronews.ca

Where to go

If you're looking to travel with your children, Albuquerque is home to a number of fine museums, including the delightfully deadpan and unique National Museum of Nuclear Science & History (601 Eubank Blvd. SE), which is kind of like a companion piece to the Smithsonian Air & Space Museum, only filled with deactivated missiles.

Less fusion-powered is the Anderson-Abruzzo Albuquerque International Balloon Museum (9201 Balloon Museum Dr. NE), which is logically located next to the site of the world-famous annual Balloon Fiesta, which takes place each year.

The ABQ BioPark complex encompasses the Albuquerque's zoo, aquarium and botanic gardens, which spotlight the indigenous flora and fauna.

Where to stay

In addition to all the usual chain hotels (with rooms available for less than $100 per night), Albuquerque features dozens of homey bed and breakfasts for the traveller who'd like a green-chile omelet included in his or her room charge.

In the Old Town area, the Bottger Mansion (110 San Felipe St NW) dates from 1910 while the Casa de Suenos (310 Rio Grande Blvd. SW) offers individual, private guest houses.

Pack your gloves

First, a note for the map-challenged: New Mexico and Arizona are not only different states, but they have vastly different climates.

So you shouldn't expect Albuquerque to feel like Phoenix in the dead of winter. The city's elevation ranges between 4,000 and 5,000 feet above sea level, and the air can be parchingly dry.

Winter temperatures are between five and 10 degrees, and can be sub-freezing at night.

Yes, it snows (which means you can go skiing if you drive about four hours north).

Pack gloves to ensure you stay warm.

San Felipe de Neri Catholic Church in Albuquerque. ISTOCK

The climate of New Mexico creates the perfect storm for champagne snow. ISTOCK

Want powder? Head to the desert

Skiing. New Mexico's ski hills have had numerous dumps this season, so Northeastern skiers take note

REBECCA FINKEL
travel@metronews.ca

After a lackluster winter, Northeast skiers and snowboarders may not be surprised to hear that some of the best snow of the season fell in the deserts of New Mexico.

"This year we've been particularly blessed," says Kevin St. John, a private instructor who has been skiing in New Mexico for more than 40 years. "We've gotten these wonderful little storms, one after another."

Ski Santa Fe, a ski area 25 kilometres northeast of the city, has received more than 335 centimetres of snow this winter. Angel Fire Resort reported 320 centimetres, and the season isn't over yet. "We'll be skiing through the first week of April," says St. John.

Northern New Mexico's excellent ski conditions may be an unintentionally well-kept secret.

A recent focus group held by the state tourism department revealed that many Americans were unaware that it even snowed in New Mexico. And it's not just any snow: the region's combination of high altitude and dry, desert air creates ideal conditions for the light, fluffy and eminently skiable snow known as "champagne powder."

Ski spots

- **Taos Ski Valley.** skitaos.org. Taos offers a challenging ski area. Book early for a chance to stay at the St. Bernard (www.stbernardtaos.com).
- **Red River Ski Area.** redriverskiarea.com. This is "a funky little ski hill in the middle of a funky little town," per local institution Wally Dobbs. Don't skip the sunset snowmobile ride.

Home on the range

What to eat

Everything, if possible. The state's distinctive cuisine is based around local chiles, which range from tongue-tingling to face-melting. For a large-scale dining experience, visit El Pinto (10500 Fourth St. NW), which resembles nothing so much as a southwestern Tavern on the Green on steroids. The restaurant, which has catered more than one White House Cinco de Mayo celebration, is justifiably famous for its tamales, a New Mexico Christmas tradition. For a quick breakfast, stop by Golden Crown Panaderia (1103 Mountain Rd. NW) for empanadas, green chile bread and half a dozen varieties of the official state cookies, biscochitos. Wherever you go, we recommend smuggling home as much local salsa and chile sauce as you can fit in your suitcase.

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Postcards from the planet

Backwaters, Kerala

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Rockwell exhibit brings Americana to Winnipeg

Art. Iconic illustrations that romanticized American life make their debut in Canada at the Winnipeg Art Gallery

The man whose very name evokes an idealized and nostalgic picture of all things American is making his first — and only — major foray north of the border.

But anyone living outside of Winnipeg will have to travel to see Norman Rockwell's unique view of American life in person. All of his iconic illustrations — which appeared primarily on the cover of The Saturday Evening Post magazine for almost 50 years — and many of his most seminal paintings are on tour and making their one and only Canadian stop at the Winnipeg Art Gallery.

The exhibit, which runs until May 20, is expected to draw not only visitors from across Canada but also many from the northern United States.

"Rockwell — beyond capturing American life ideas, issues and politics — was able to encapsulate much of the 20th century, which is often called, in the world of art, America's century," said Stephen Borys, executive director of the gallery.

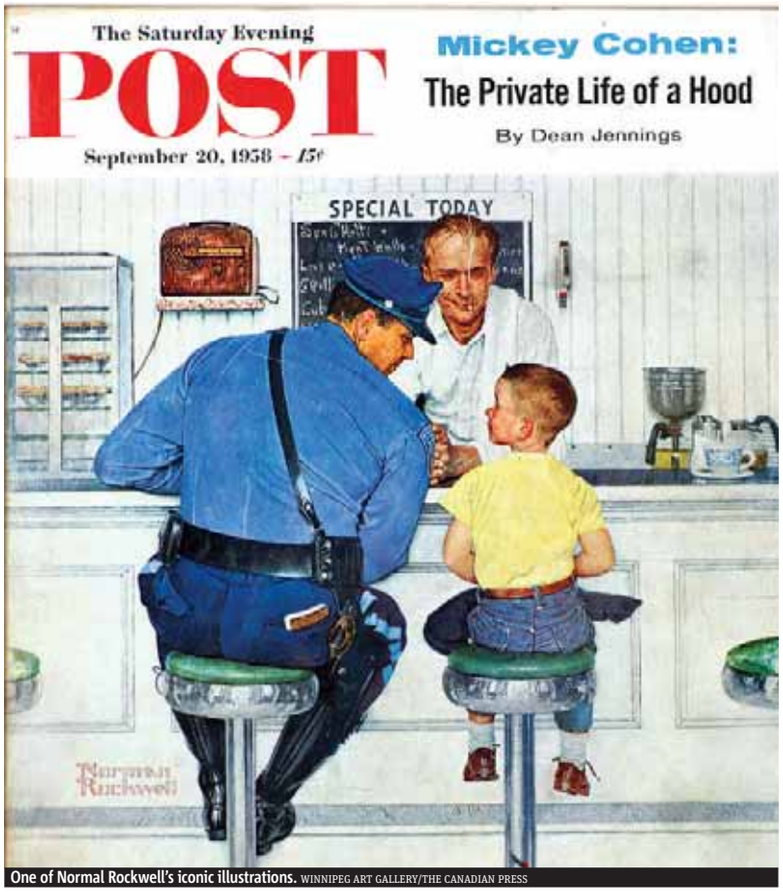
"To have one artist following the development of a nation, of a people, from the first decade of the 20th century to the eighth decade is extraordinary."

Many of Rockwell's pieces have become legendary for their Leave It To Beaver reflection of small-town America. Rockwell's work often shunned social conflict, presenting romanticized and humorous depictions of family life.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

If you go...

- **The exhibit.** American Chronicles: The Art of Norman Rockwell runs to May 20th at the Winnipeg Art Gallery. Tours held on Saturday and Sunday at 2 p.m. Gallery hours: Tuesday through Sunday 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Thursday 11 a.m.-9 p.m., closed Mondays.
- **Special events.** There are a number of special events, workshops and talks associated with the exhibit including a visit by Norman Rockwell's son Peter, who will talk about his father's work on April 27 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Another talk March 11 from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. will examine Rockwell's vision of America while Rockwell's role in advertising and consumer culture will be discussed April 15 from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m.



One of Normal Rockwell's iconic illustrations. WINNIPEG ART GALLERY/THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Unlikely flavours, textures mingle in Tomato and Sweet Potato soup

Marcona almonds are entirely different than the more common California almond.

A higher fat content explains the textural difference — tender-crunchy and moist.

As for flavour, think savoury and steak-like.

It doesn't hurt they're typically processed by being fried in olive oil, then sprinkled with salt.

1 In a large saucepan over medium-high, heat oil. Add onion, garlic and sweet potato. Sauté for about 10 minutes or until sweet potato starts to brown.

2 Add diced tomatoes, tomato sauce and chicken broth. Bring to a simmer and cook for about 20 minutes or until potato is very tender.

3 Working in batches if needed, transfer soup to a blender and puree until smooth. Return soup to pan, stir in vinegar and season with salt and pepper to taste.

Ingredients

- 30 ml (2 tbsp) olive oil
- 1 onion, finely diced
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 500 ml (2 cups) peeled, diced sweet potato (1 large)
- 1 can (796 ml/28 oz) diced tomatoes
- 1 can (426 ml/15 oz) tomato sauce
- 500 ml (2 cups) chicken broth
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) balsamic vinegar
- Salt and ground black pe per, to taste
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) chopped marcona almonds
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) finely chopped fresh rosemary

4 In a small bowl, mix together almonds and rosemary. Ladle soup into serving bowls, then sprinkle almond mixture over each serving.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/ THIS RECIPE WAS ADAPTED BY EMILY RICHARDS FOR METRO NEWS. EMILY IS A PROFESSIONAL HOME ECONOMIST, COOKBOOK AUTHOR AND TV CELEBRITY CHEF. FOR MORE VISIT, EMILYRICHARDSCOOKS.CA.

Tomato and Sweet Potato Soup with Rosemary Marcona Almonds

This recipe serves eight. MATTHEW MEAD/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Drink of the Week

Key Lime Smoothie

Treat yourself to a taste of the tropics with this filling breakfast smoothie. Featuring heart-healthy walnuts and chock-full of omega-3s and fibre-rich avocado, this breakfast replacement will give you the fuel you need to kick-start your day.

1 In a blender or using a hand blender, combine all ingredients and process until smooth, about 1 minute.

- 1/2 avocado
- 1/2 small banana
- 175 ml (3/4 cup) cold water
- 75 ml (1/3 cup) walnuts, chopped into halves or crumbs
- 75 ml (1/3 cup) low-fat coconut milk
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) honey
- Juice of 1 fresh lime

MISSAVOCADO.COM/ THE CANADIAN PRESS

Think outside the box when it comes to handing out your resumés. Your degree may offer more opportunities than you think. ISTOCK

The summer job search starts now

The heat is on. Many companies have already started their summer hiring; take down these tips and get yourself out there

LAUREN FRIESE
talentegg.ca

Job search outside the lines
Most students have a very narrow view of what job opportunities are available to them based on their degree, but you can potentially put your education to use in almost any industry.

For example, as a finance student, don't only apply to banks. Check out or create finance-related jobs in other industries or types of businesses that may also need people in finance, which is every industry and business!

Start building your online presence
Develop a simple online portfolio or blog to showcase your work and include the URL on your resumés.

Don't have much work experience? Post relevant school projects, write blog posts about your industry to show how passionate you are, and display recommendations from former bosses, professors, co-workers and classmates.

Actively approach employers online
More and more employers are using online tools to market jobs and interact with potential candidates, so use them to your advantage!

Find and target the companies and people you want to work for on Twitter, LinkedIn, etc., and make an effort to interact with them.

Customize your job applications
One of the biggest and most common mistakes students make is submitting the same resumé to every job. Don't do this!

Instead, create a custom resumé for each role you apply for to show your will to work for that specific organization. Yes, it's a lot more work, but it will pay off when employers see that you're willing to go the extra mile.

LAUREN FRIESE IS THE FOUNDER OF TALENTEGG.CA, CANADA'S LEADING JOB SITE AND ONLINE CAREER RESOURCE FOR COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY STUDENTS AND RECENT GRADUATES.

Wonderful web

Take advantage of the free resources available to you

- **The online edge.** You will never have more free resources at your disposal than you do right now as a student, including your parents, professors and instructors, campus career centre, and online resources like TalentEgg.ca!

Twitter

@TalentEgg: What was your first summer job? What did you learn?

@HumairaRiaz
It was as a trainer aide. I picked up skills like marketing and human resource management and it was a lot of fun.

@EvanBirtch
I worked in catering 4 my Summer job, taught me about listening 2 what the customer really wanted;turned into a highschool career

@TalentEgg: Do you have any summer job search tips for other TalentEggers?

@justinabraham
Start early and don't get easily discouraged! If you send out 10 resumes and get 2 responses, you are doing great!

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The two-job juggle

Double trouble?
Picking up two or more positions this coming summer may mean more work, but it doesn't have to mean more stress.

ALANNA GLASS
talentegg.ca

Last summer, I took on the responsibility of balancing two part-time jobs. My first job was an unpaid internship for academic credit for three days a week, and my second was as a server at a local restaurant.

The internship was part of my program at school, and I used my part-time job to help fund my education, so it was tough to prioritize one over the other. But I survived the summer and I guarantee it can be done!

Be honest about your situation with your employer
Let your bosses know that you're working two jobs and ask if they can accommodate you, particularly if one of them is an unpaid internship.

I was lucky that both of my employers modified my schedules with them so I could do both jobs.

By being open and honest with them from the start, I was able to maintain a manageable schedule that let me balance both opportunities.

You may be busy, but stop and smell the flowers. ISTOCK

Make the most of your experience
Get regular feedback from both of your employers on your performance and progress because that positive validation will keep you motivated to continue.

Ask to take on projects that interest you and see if you can be booked for more hours. Multitasking and juggling more than one job or responsibility at a time is a lifelong skill, so make the most of this opportunity and have fun!

Stay social
Hang out during breaks at work and after your shift is over. The people that you work with understand how important it is to be dedicated to your job, and that's a great starting point of common ground for you to build a friendship on.

Communication is key

"By being open and honest with them from the start, I was able to maintain a manageable schedule that let me balance both opportunities."

Alanna Glass
Student at Western University

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Carlyle era has its first loss, as Maple Leafs fall to Bruins

NHL. Seguin, Caron each score twice for Boston, Lupul leaves with possible injury

Tuesday's game

BRUINS	LEAFS
5	4

Randy Carlyle still has some work to do.

The new coach put his Toronto Maple Leafs through two lengthy practices after taking over for Ron Wilson, but the team met a familiar fate against the Boston Bruins — dropping a 5-4 decision on Tuesday night.

Jordan Caron and Tyler Seguin each had two-goal performances as the Bruins beat Toronto for the fifth time this season. They've outscored their Northeast Division rival 28-10 in the process.

Chris Kelly also had a goal for Boston (39-23-3), which halted a two-game losing slide. Tim Thomas stopped 25 shots and picked up the victory.

Carl Gunnarsson, John-Michael Liles, Phil Kessel and Mikhail Grabovski replied for the Maple Leafs (30-29-7).

A major point of emphasis from Carlyle and new assistant Dave Farrish has been trying to get Toronto to play a more conservative defensive game. However, there wasn't any sign of that in an entertaining, wide-open affair.

The Leafs played more than half the game with a short bench after losing forwards Joffrey Lupul and Colby Armstrong early in the second period. Lupul appeared to suffer a wrist injury after taking a check from David Krejci while Armstrong was bloodied in a fight by Dennis Seidenberg.

The middle frame offered a glimpse of the tougher brand of hockey the Leafs are expected to play under Carlyle with three fights. It also cost Toronto the game.

After Liles put the Leafs ahead 2-1 with a power-play goal at 57 seconds, Boston quickly struck twice. Seguin tipped a Zdeno Chara pass home at 2:02 before Kelly knocked a rebound past Jonas Gustavsson, who was bumped out of position by a hard-charging Caron, at 2:43.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

The Bruins celebrate a goal against Jonas Gustavsson on Tuesday. NICK LAHAM/GETTY IMAGES FILE

Burke locks up Grabovski for five years

Mikhail Grabovski lands on Boston's Greg Zanon. NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

The rest of the NHL now knows how highly the Toronto Maple Leafs think of Mikhail Grabovski.

Brian Burke made the impending free agent his highest-paid forward Tuesday, signing Grabovski to a $27.5-million US, five-year extension.

That vaults the 28-year-old centre just outside the top 30 in terms of cap hit among NHL forwards. It was also the biggest deal Burke has handed out since being hired by the Leafs in November 2008 and bumped Grabovski $100,000 ahead of Leafs winger Phil Kessel in annual salary.

"They know I love to play here and they did everything to keep me here," Grabovski said before Toronto faced the Boston Bruins. "I'm enjoying being part of this organization."

The deal also includes a limited no-trade clause that allows Grabovski to select 10 teams each season he'd be willing to move to.

Offensive production

58

Number of points recorded by Mikhail Grabovski last season, a career high. This year he has 45 points through 59 games.

It's a major commitment to a player who was acquired in 2008 from Montreal for a second-round pick. Grabovski has grown into his own since then and become the team's most reliable two-way forward, not to mention an important presence in the dressing room.

"He's got a lot of heart when he plays," said linemate Clarke MacArthur. "I think that's something a lot of teams would want to build around."

Grabovski's agent, Gary Greenstin, was first approached by the Leafs about a new contract in October and called the negotiations that followed "tough." THE CANADIAN PRESS

NHL

Crosby cleared for contact

Pittsburgh Penguins captain Sidney Crosby has been cleared for contact. Crosby says he will play at the moment he is free from concussion-like symptoms, but there remains no timetable for his return.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NFL

Colts to drop Manning: Report

The Peyton Manning era in Indianapolis is expected to end Wednesday, according to a report from ESPN, citing anonymous sources. Manning is owed a $28-million bonus if he is still a Colt on Thursday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Manning ANDY LYONS/GETTY IMAGES FILE

NFL

Moss works out for Saints

The New Orleans Saints held a workout on Tuesday with veteran receiver Randy Moss, who is trying to make a comeback after a year out of pro football. The club did not provide any details on how the 35-year-old performed. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MLB

"It's like when you're getting remarried and you are renewing your vows. That's how I feel."

Centre-fielder Andrew McCutchen who agreed to a to a six-year, $51.5 million deal with the Pittsburgh Pirates on Tuesday.

Leafs preview

Toronto at Pittsburgh, 7:30 p.m. (TSN)

The Maple Leafs (30-28-7) travel to Pittsburgh (39-21-5) for their second game in two nights. The Penguins have won six straight games. Evgeni Malkin has 12 points as part of an eight-game scoring streak. Malkin assisted on Chris Kunitz's 19th goal of the season in Pittsburgh's 2-1 win over Phoenix on Monday. Marc-Andre Fleury made 36 saves for his 35th win of the season. Sidney Crosby is skating with the Penguins during practice, but his return remains uncertain.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Lee helps Phillies blank Blue Jays

Blue Jays second baseman Kelly Johnson slides into Philadelphia Phillies third baseman Hector Luna after hitting a triple on Tuesday. Cliff Lee and Kyle Kendrick each threw two innings, leading the Phillies to a 7-0 victory over the Jays in spring training action. Jays starter Ricky Romero tossed two innings of one-hit ball.

FRANK GUNN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

'Finally the moment's here'

TFC. Game against Galaxy gives team a chance to make history as first Canadian club to reach semi-finals

So much for easing into things.

Toronto FC begins its sixth year with the biggest game in team history.

Wednesday night's opening leg of the CONCACAF Champions League quarter-final at Rogers Centre against David Beckham and the Los Angeles Galaxy is not just a chance to get a jump on the defending MLS Cup title-holders. It's an opportunity to turn the page on five seasons of ineptitude.

"Everybody has been writing and talking about this game for months and now finally the moment's here," head coach Aron Winter said of the match, which TFC qualified for by virtue of a 3-0 road win over FC Dallas last October to advance beyond the group stage for the first time in three tries.

"We have to be ready for it. We are ready."

This match, to be played before a sell-out crowd of about 45,000, and the return leg in California next Wednesday, will set the tone for the Major League Soccer season, which TFC begins in Seattle on March 17.

Victory over L.A. would make TFC the first Canadian side in the semi-finals of the club competition for North and Central America and the Caribbean. It would also give the Reds momentum in the push for a first MLS playoff bid.

"It's very exciting," said defender Ashtone Morgan, a 21-year-old Toronto native. "It's possibly the biggest game I'll play in my whole career.

"I'm nervous, excited, all emotions. It's good."

Veteran striker Danny Koevermans said it's key to not be overwhelmed.

"Just enjoy the moment and go out and get a good result," he said.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Turf gets thumbs down

Los Angeles Galaxy stars David Beckham and Robbie Keane both griped about the artificial turf they'll play on Wednesday.

- "It's not ideal, but it's the same for both teams," Beckham said. "Ideally you want to play on grass, but at the end of the day, this is the situation. And at least it's a touch warmer (than outdoors at BMO Field)."
- Keane was more critical in his assessment. "I don't think we should be playing on a plastic pitch," said the Irish striker. "I think these days, it should be grass pitches. I don't think it's good injury-wise, I think it can be dangerous."
- Toronto FC players, for their part, are also less than enthusiastic about the turf. When asked what he thinks of the field, Toronto head coach Aron Winter would only say: "It's green."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

ADVERTISING FEATURE

Car Insurance Rates on the Rise Again

Main causes of rate increases and how to avoid them

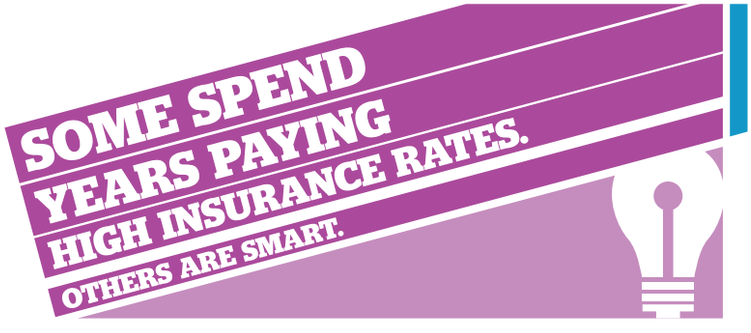
Insurance rates are determined using a variety of factors such as your driving history, where you live and what kind of car you drive. Over time the weighting of the various factors may change, along with the insurance company's experience in the market which results in changes to the rates charged. Although in some cases drivers might see a rate decrease, for the most part it is insurance rate increases that are most noticed and more prevalent. An auto insurance rate increase can happen for a variety of reasons.

Insurance companies review their rating on a regular basis, ensuring that they are up to date with current statistics and trends. This can mean that an insurance rate will increase simply because the results for that particular profile have changed. It could be that the vehicle is more commonly stolen, or the cost to repair it has increased due to rarity of parts. Company-wide rate changes are the hardest to accept for many drivers, but they are also often the reason a driver decides to take the time to obtain insurance quotes and shop for a better rate.

People will likely see an increase in their car insurance rates on the first insurance renewal date following an incident that affects their driving record. There are two ways in which a driver's record might change, causing an insurance rate increase – a traffic violation or an accident in which the driver has been found at fault. An at-fault accident will almost always result in an increase unless the driver has accident forgiveness coverage on the policy. Even then, not all accidents fall under the forgiveness conditions and a rate increase might follow.

There are also a number of factors aside from driving record that can result in a rate increase on an insurance policy, such as where the vehicle is kept, commute distance and who primarily drives the vehicle.

Since each insurance company has their own approved rates and can change them frequently, the best way to make sure you are paying the best rate available for your profile is to shop around. With so many online quoting services available, it makes sense to spend a few minutes every time the policy renewal comes in to check your rate against those offered by other insurance companies.



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	GP	W	L	OTL	SL	GF	GA	Pts	Home	Away	Last 10	Strk
d-NY Rangers	65	42	16	2	5	180	137	91	22-7-0-2	20-9-2-3	5-3-1-1	L1
d-Boston	65	39	23	1	2	214	154	81	19-12-1-1	20-11-0-1	4-5-0-1	W1
d-Florida	65	31	22	5	7	163	184	74	16-9-1-7	15-13-4-0	4-5-0-1	W1
Pittsburgh	65	39	21	2	3	209	168	83	21-8-2-0	18-13-0-3	8-2-0-0	W6
Philadelphia	65	37	21	2	5	213	193	81	16-10-1-4	21-11-1-1	6-4-0-0	W3
New Jersey	66	37	24	2	3	184	176	79	17-12-0-3	20-12-2-0	5-4-1-0	W1
Ottawa	68	35	25	6	2	209	201	78	17-13-2-1	18-12-4-1	7-3-0-0	W1
Winnipeg	67	32	27	4	4	176	187	72	21-10-1-3	11-17-3-1	6-2-1-1	W2
Washington	66	32	28	3	3	175	188	70	21-10-1-2	11-18-2-1	4-5-1-0	L3
Tampa Bay	66	31	29	3	3	187	226	68	20-10-1-1	11-19-2-2	7-3-0-0	L1
Buffalo	66	30	28	4	4	163	186	68	16-11-3-4	14-17-1-0	6-2-1-1	L1
Toronto	66	30	29	4	3	198	206	67	16-13-3-2	14-16-1-1	2-7-1-0	L1
NY Islanders	66	28	29	6	3	154	190	65	15-14-5-0	13-15-2-2	4-5-1-0	W2
Carolina	66	25	27	8	6	175	200	64	17-13-1-5	8-14-7-1	5-2-1-2	W1
Montreal	66	25	31	2	8	170	184	60	12-15-2-6	13-16-0-2	2-7-0-1	L1

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OTL	SL	GF	GA	Pts	Home	Away	Last 10	Strk
d-Vancouver	66	41	17	1	7	209	161	90	19-7-0-4	22-10-1-2	6-2-1-1	L1
d-St. Louis	66	41	18	1	6	169	131	89	26-4-1-3	15-14-0-3	7-3-0-0	W1
d-Dallas	66	35	26	1	4	174	178	75	18-12-0-3	17-14-1-1	7-1-1-1	W2
Detroit	67	43	21	1	2	211	156	89	27-4-1-1	16-17-0-1	5-4-0-1	L2
Nashville	65	38	20	3	4	184	166	83	21-7-2-3	17-13-1-1	6-2-0-2	W1
Chicago	67	36	24	4	3	202	195	79	22-7-1-3	14-17-3-0	7-3-0-0	W3
Phoenix	67	33	25	3	6	173	170	75	17-12-2-2	16-13-1-4	6-4-0-0	L4
San Jose	64	33	24	4	3	179	163	73	19-11-2-0	14-13-2-3	2-7-1-0	L2
Los Angeles	65	30	23	5	7	142	139	72	17-13-0-4	13-10-5-3	4-4-1-1	W2
Colorado	67	34	29	3	1	171	180	72	18-15-0-1	16-14-3-0	6-4-0-0	W1
Calgary	66	29	25	5	7	159	181	70	16-9-1-4	13-15-4-3	3-2-2-3	L2
Anaheim	67	29	28	4	6	170	188	68	18-14-2-0	11-14-2-6	5-4-0-1	W1
Minnesota	66	28	28	2	8	143	180	66	15-12-1-3	13-16-1-5	3-5-0-2	L4
Edmonton	65	25	34	2	4	172	196	56	16-13-2-2	9-21-0-2	3-6-1-0	L3
Columbus	66	21	38	2	5	156	216	49	12-18-1-2	9-20-1-3	5-4-1-0	W3

d — division leaders ranked 1-2-3 regardless of points; a team winning in overtime or shootout is credited with two points and a victory in the W column; the team losing in overtime or shootout receives one point which is registered in the OTL (overtime loss) or SL (shootout loss) column.

Last night's results
Boston 5 Toronto 4
Ottawa 7 Tampa Bay 3
Carolina 4 Washington 3 (OT)
Columbus 3 Phoenix 2
New Jersey 4 N.Y. Rangers 1
Philadelphia 3 Detroit 2
Chicago at St. Louis
Los Angeles at Nashville
Minnesota at Colorado
Montreal at Calgary
Dallas at Vancouver
Edmonton at San Jose
Monday's results
Winnipeg 3 Buffalo 1
Anaheim 4 Edmonton 2
Pittsburgh 2 Phoenix 1
Tonight's games
All times Eastern
Carolina at Buffalo, 7 p.m.
Toronto at Pittsburgh, 7:30 p.m.
Tomorrow's games
Buffalo at Boston, 7 p.m.
N.Y. Islanders at New Jersey, 7 p.m.
Florida at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Washington, 7 p.m.
Los Angeles at Columbus, 7 p.m.
N.Y. Rangers at Ottawa, 7:30 p.m.
Anaheim at St. Louis, 8 p.m.
Colorado at Nashville, 8 p.m.
San Jose at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
Minnesota at Phoenix, 9 p.m.
Montreal at Edmonton, 9:30 p.m.
Winnipeg at Vancouver, 10 p.m.
Friday's games
Florida at Pittsburgh, 7 p.m.
Los Angeles at Detroit, 7:30 p.m.
N.Y. Rangers at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.
Winnipeg at Calgary, 9 p.m.

BRUINS 5, MAPLE LEAFS 4

First Period
1. Toronto, Gunnarsson 3 (Connolly, Kulemin) 3:01
2. Boston, Caron 5 (Pouliot, Corvo) 13:58
Penalties — None.
Second Period
3. Toronto, Liles 5 (Lupul, Kessel) 0:57 (pp)
4. Boston, Seguin 23 (Chara, Krejci) 2:02
5. Boston, Kelly 16 (Caron, Pouliot) 2:43
6. Toronto, Kessel 33 (Liles, Phaneuf) 5:52 (pp)
7. Boston, Caron 6 (Chara, Bergeron) 13:34
8. Boston, Seguin 24 (Lucic, Krejci) 16:09
Penalties — Marchand Bos (hooking) 0:31, Thornton Bos, Rosehill Tor (fighting) 2:45, McQuaid Bos (roughing), Seidenberg Bos, Armstrong Tor (fighting) 8:36, Bergeron Bos (tripping) 8:56, Marchand Bos (roughing), Connolly Tor (cross-checking, roughing) 20:00.
Third Period
9. Toronto, Grabovski 21 (MacArthur, Gardiner) 13:13
Penalties — Lombardi Tor (unsportsmanlike conduct) 6:30, Chara Bos (boarding) 14:54, Kelly Bos (delay of game) 19:43.
Shots on goal

Boston	12	12	9	—33
Toronto	7	10	12	—29

Goal — Boston: Thomas (W,28-15-0); Toronto: Gustavsson (L,17-14-2).
Power plays (goals-chances) — Boston 0-2; Toronto 2-5.
Referees — Greg Kimmerly, Steve Kozari.
Linesmen — Steve Miller, Don Henderson.
Attendance — 19,684 (18,819) at Toronto.

HURRICANES 4, CAPITALS 3 (OT)

First Period
1. Washington, Brouwer 18 (Aucoin) 13:59
Penalties — Gleason Car (delay of game) 10:46, Wideman Wash (hooking) 14:29.
Second Period
2. Washington, Beagle 1 (Orlov, Wideman) 4:11
3. Carolina, Tlusty 15 (Samson, E.Staal) 4:51
4. Carolina, LaRose 12 (Gleason, Allen) 8:30
Penalties — Skinner Car (roughing), Wideman Wash (goaltender interference), Orlov Wash (roughing, abuse of officials) 12:04.
Third Period
5. Carolina, Bra.Sutter 14 (Gleason) 1:45
6. Washington, Laich 12 (Johansson, Carlson) 17:08
Penalties — None.
Overtime
7. Carolina, Faulk 8 (Bra.Sutter) 3:38
Penalties — None.
Shots on goal

Carolina	10	11	11	4	—36
Washington	13	15	18	3	—49

Goal — Carolina: C.Ward (W,23-19-11); Washington: Neuvirth (L,9-11-4). **Power plays (goals-chances)** — Carolina: 0-2; Wash: 0-1.
Attendance — 18,506 (18,398) at Washington.

SCORING LEADERS

	G	A	Pt
Malkin, Pgh	38	43	81
Stamkos, TB	47	33	80
Giroux, Pha	23	52	75
Spezza, Ott	28	44	72
Kessel, Tor	32	36	68
Lupul, Tor	25	41	66
Karlsson, Ott	15	51	66
H.Sedin, Vcr	13	53	66
D.Sedin, Vcr	28	36	64
Hossa, Chi	27	37	64
Tavares, NYI	26	37	63
Neal, Pgh	30	32	62
Eberle, Edm	29	33	62
Kovalchuk, NJ	25	37	62
St. Louis, TB	22	39	61
Elias, NJ	21	40	61
Ra.Whitney, Phx	21	39	60
Hartnell, Pha	31	28	59
Pominville, Buf	23	36	59
Eriksson, Dal	22	37	59
Datsyuk, Det	16	43	59
Parenteau, NYI	15	44	59
Thornton, SJ	14	45	59
Gaborik, NYR	32	26	58
Selanne, Ana	21	37	58
E.Staal, Car	19	39	58
Toews, Chi	29	28	57
Moulson, NYI	28	28	56
Parise, NJ	27	29	56
Vrbata, Phx	30	25	55
Sharp, Chi	25	30	55
Kopitar, LA	19	36	55
Perry, Ana	33	21	54
Wheeler, Wpg	15	39	54
Zetterberg, Det	15	39	54
Filppula, Det	21	32	53
O.Jokinen, Cal	20	33	53
Bergeron, Bos	19	34	53

Last night's games not included

SOCCER

CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

SECOND ROUND
Second Leg
Arsenal (England) 3 AC Milan (Italy) 0
(AC Milan advances on 4-3 aggregate)
Benfica (Port.) 2 Zenit St. Petersburg (Rus.) 0
(Benfica advances 4-3)

CURLING

CANADIAN MEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP

TIM HORTONS BRIER

At Saskatoon
ROUND-ROBIN STANDINGS

Province (Skip)	W	L
Alberta (K. Koe)	6	1
Northwest Territories/Yukon (J. Koe)	5	1
Ontario (Howard)	5	1
Manitoba (R. Fowler)	4	2
British Columbia (Cotter)	4	3
Nova Scotia (Murphy)	3	3
Northern Ontario (Jacobs)	3	4
New Brunswick (T. Odishaw)	2	4
Saskatchewan (Manners)	2	4
Newfoundland & Labrador (Gushue)	2	5
Quebec (Desjardins)	1	5
P.E.I. (Gaudet)	1	5

Yesterday's results
Ninth Draw
Alberta 8 Newfoundland & Labrador 1
British Columbia 7 Northern Ontario 3
Manitoba 10 Nova Scotia 7
Prince Edward Island 8 New Brunswick 6
Draw 10
Newfoundland & Labrador 8 British Columbia 6
Northern Ontario 7 Alberta 6
Northwest Terr./Yukon 8 Que. 7 (extra end)
Ontario 7 Saskatchewan 5 (extra end)
Draw 11
PEI vs. Northwest Territories/Yukon
New Brunswick vs. Quebec
Manitoba vs. Ontario
Saskatchewan vs. Nova Scotia
Monday's results
Sixth Draw
Northwest Territories/Yukon 9 Sask. 5
Ontario 9 Quebec 8 (extra end)
Seventh Draw
Alberta 8 Prince Edward Island 2
British Columbia 9 Manitoba 5
New Brunswick 8 Northern Ontario 3
Newfoundland & Labrador 10 Nova Scotia 5
Eighth Draw
Alberta 6 Saskatchewan 3
British Columbia 5 Quebec 4
Northwest Terr./Yukon 10 Nfld. & Labrador 6
Ontario 6 Northern Ontario 5 (extra end)
Today's games
All times Eastern
Draw 12, 9:30 a.m.
Northern Ontario vs. Quebec; Northwest Territories/Yukon vs. Alberta; Newfoundland & Labrador vs. Saskatchewan; B.C. vs. Ontario.
Draw 13, 2:30 p.m.
Saskatchewan vs. New Brunswick; Prince Edward Island vs. Ontario; Quebec vs. Nova Scotia; Northwest Terr./Yukon vs. Manitoba.
Draw 14, 7:30 p.m.
Manitoba vs. Alberta; Nova Scotia vs. Northern Ontario; Prince Edward Island vs. British Columbia; Newfoundland & Labrador vs. N.B.
Tomorrow's games
Draw 15, 9:30 a.m.
Ontario vs. Nova Scotia; Saskatchewan vs. Manitoba; Northwest Territories/Yukon vs. New Brunswick; PEI vs. Quebec.
Draw 16, 2:30 p.m.
Newfoundland & Labrador vs. Prince Edward Island; British Columbia vs. New Brunswick; Northern Ont. vs. Manitoba; N.S. vs. Alberta.
Draw 17, 7:30 p.m.
Northwest Territories/Yukon vs. British Columbia; Quebec vs. Newfoundland & Labrador; Ontario vs. Alberta; Northern Ont. vs. Sask.
Tiebreakers (if required)

LACROSSE

NLL

EAST DIVISION

	GP	W	L	Pct.	GF	GA	GB
Toronto	8	4	4	.500	94	96	—
Philadelphia	8	4	4	.500	88	100	—
Rochester	9	4	5	.444	113	111	½
Buffalo	7	2	5	.286	83	92	1½

WEST DIVISION

	GP	W	L	Pct.	GF	GA	GB
Colorado	8	7	1	.875	109	107	—
Calgary	8	5	3	.625	106	90	2
Minnesota	8	5	3	.625	103	92	2
Edmonton	6	2	4	.333	64	61	4
Washington	8	2	6	.250	79	100	5

Week Nine
WEEK 10
Friday's games
All times Eastern
Philadelphia at Toronto, 7:30 p.m.
Calgary at Edmonton, 9 p.m.
Saturday's games
Boston at Rochester, 1:05 p.m.
Edmonton at Calgary, 9 p.m.
Washington at Colorado, 9 p.m.
Sunday's game
Colorado at Washington, 8 p.m.
WEEK 11
Friday, March 16
Buffalo at Toronto, 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, Mar. 17
Edmonton at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
Minnesota at Buffalo, 7:30 p.m.

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL

NATIONAL LEAGUE

PITTSBURGH PIRATES — Named Kathleen Clark vice president of marketing & strategy.
PITTSBURGH PIRATES — Agreed to terms with OF Andrew McCutchen on a 6-yr contract.

FOOTBALL

NFL

ATLANTA FALCONS — Signed S Thomas DeCoud.
HOUSTON TEXANS — Signed RB Arian Foster to a five-year contract.
KANSAS CITY CHIEFS — Released LB Demorrio Williams.
OAKLAND RAIDERS — Named Lamonte Winston director-player engagement.
SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS — Signed S C.J. Spillman to a three-year contract.
TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS — Named Brian Angelichio tight ends coach, Bob Bostad off. line coach, Earnest Byner running backs coach, P.J. Fleck wide receivers coach, Steve Loney asst. offensive line coach, Ben McDaniels offensive asst. & Ron Turner quarterbacks coach.

HOCKEY

NHL

LEAGUE OFFICE — Fined Ottawa D Erik Karlsson $2,500 for slashing Florida F Sean Bergenheim during Sunday's game.
CAROLINA HURRICANES — Loaned F Jared Staal to Providence (AHL).
NEW JERSEY DEVILS — Recalled C Brad Mills from Albany (AHL).
TORONTO MAPLE LEAFS — Signed C Mikhail Grabovski to a five-year contract.

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

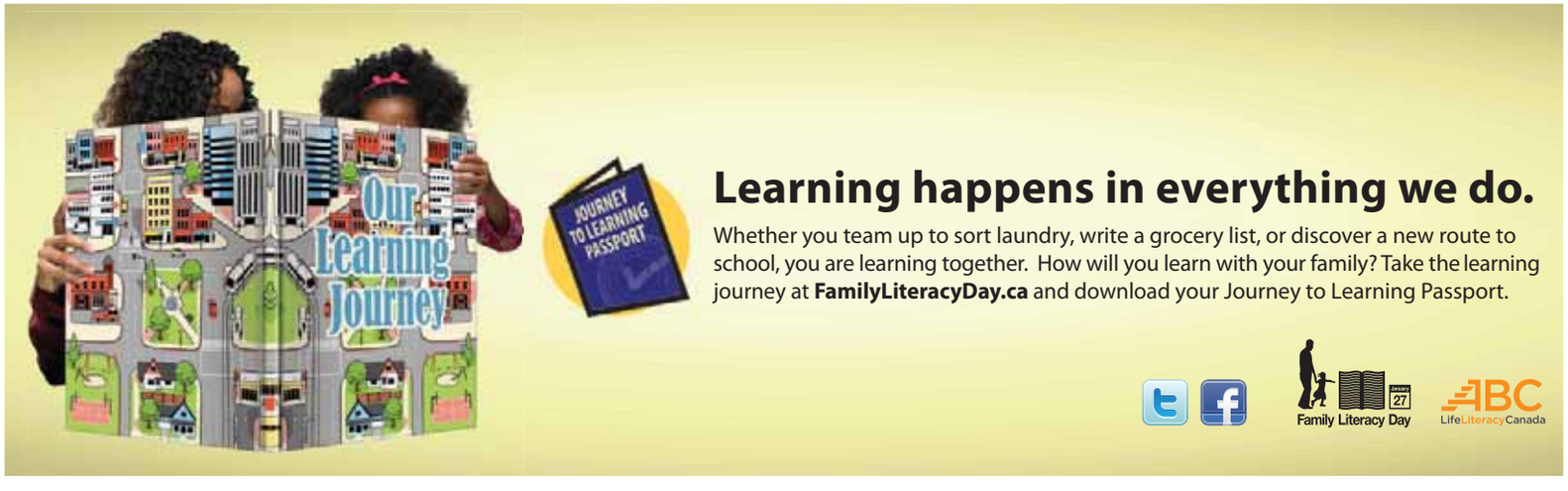
	W	L	Pct	GB
d-Chicago	32	8	.800	—
d-Miami	29	9	.763	2
Orlando	25	15	.625	7
d-Philadelphia	22	17	.564	9½
Indiana	23	14	.622	7½
Atlanta	23	15	.605	8
Boston	20	17	.541	10½
New York	18	19	.486	12½
Milwaukee	15	23	.395	16
Cleveland	13	23	.361	17
Detroit	13	26	.333	18½
Toronto	12	26	.316	19
New Jersey	12	27	.308	19½
Washington	8	29	.216	22½
Charlotte	5	31	.139	25

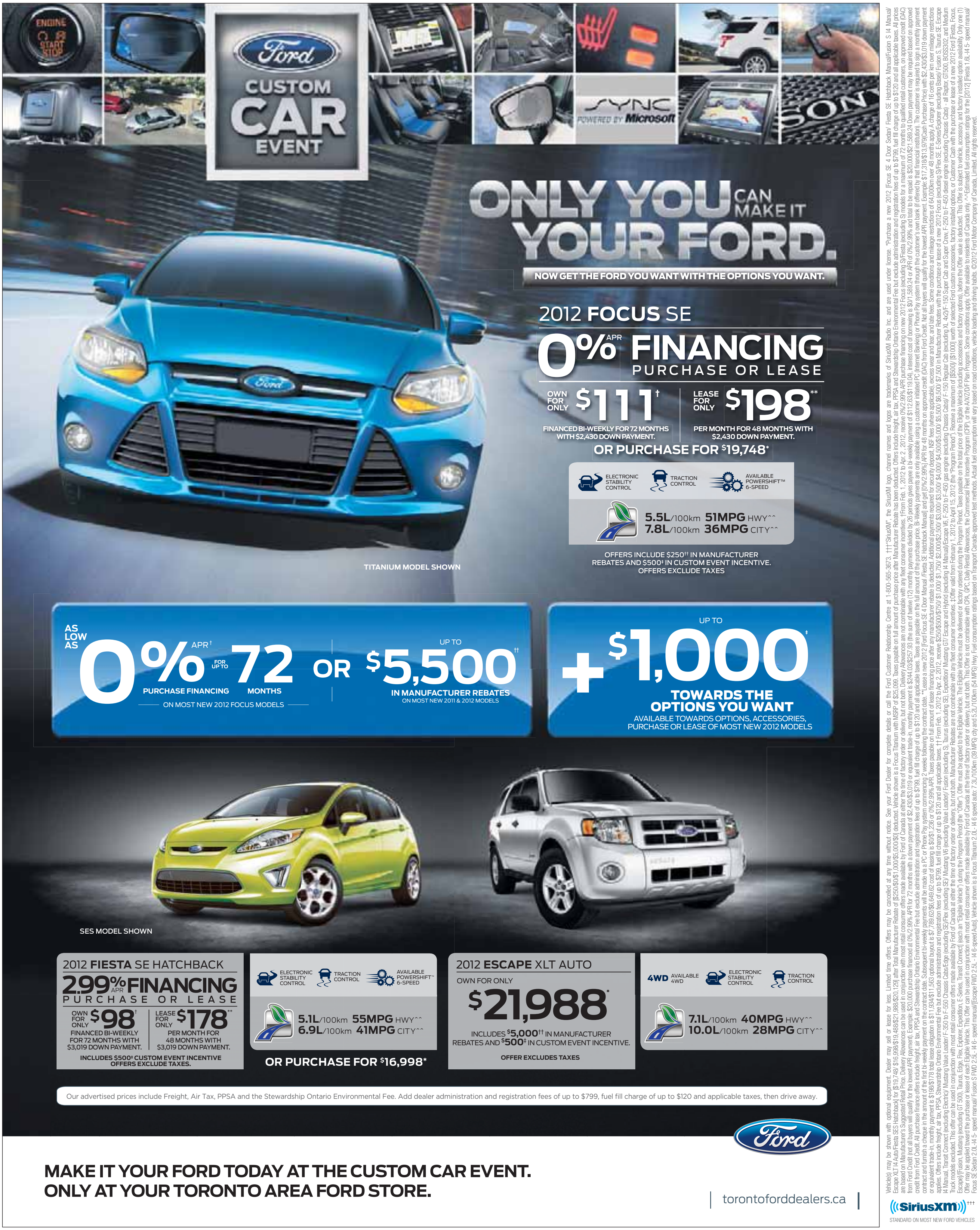
WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
d-Oklahoma City	30	8	.789	—
d-San Antonio	25	12	.676	4½
d-L.A. Clippers	22	14	.611	7
L.A. Lakers	23	15	.605	7
Memphis	22	15	.595	7½
Dallas	22	17	.564	8½
Denver	22	17	.564	8½
Houston	21	18	.538	9½
Minnesota	20	19	.513	10½
Portland	19	19	.500	11
Utah	18	19	.486	11½
Phoenix	17	20	.459	12½
Golden State	15	20	.429	13½
Sacramento	12	26	.316	18
New Orleans	9	29	.237	21

d — division leaders ranked in top four positions regardless of record.

Last night's results
Charlotte 100 Orlando 84
Atlanta 101 Indiana 96
Miami 108 New Jersey 78
Detroit 88 L.A. Lakers 85 (OT)
Boston 97 Houston 92 (OT)
New York at Dallas
Monday's results
Utah 109 Cleveland 100
Orlando 92 Toronto 88
Golden State 120 Washington 100
Chicago 92 Indiana 72
Oklahoma City 95 Dallas 91
Minnesota 95 L.A. Clippers 94
Milwaukee 97 Philadelphia 93
Denver 119 Sacramento 116 (OT)
Portland 86 New Orleans 74
Tonight's games
All times Eastern
Utah at Charlotte, 7 p.m.
Houston at Toronto, 7 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Washington, 7 p.m.
Boston at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
Atlanta at Miami, 7:30 p.m.
Phoenix at Oklahoma City, 8 p.m.
Portland at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
Chicago at Milwaukee, 8 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at New Jersey, 8 p.m.
New York at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m.
Cleveland at Denver, 9 p.m.
New Orleans at Sacramento, 10 p.m.
Memphis at Golden State, 10:30 p.m.
Tomorrow's games
Orlando at Chicago, 8 p.m.
Dallas at Phoenix, 10:30 p.m.

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Softer grille is the new style

ALL PHOTOS WHEELBASE

Four-wheel-drive

When the going gets tough, the Pilot's available four-wheel-drive system (VTM-4) automatically engages to direct additional torque to the rear wheels as needed before the fronts lose traction.

Power is also distributed aft when accelerating from a stop on slippery surfaces.

Passenger pleasure

For enhanced passenger pleasure, the Pilot has improved noise-reducing seals beneath the body panels, added insulation inside the door pillars and "quieter" acoustic windshield glass.

The cabin features a restyled dashboard, gauges and central panel stack.

2012 Honda Pilot

- **Type.** Four-door, front-/four-wheel-drive eight-passenger sport utility vehicle.
- **Engine (hp):** 3.5-litre SOHC V6.
- **Mileage:** L/100 km (city/hwy) 11.8/7.8 (FWD).
- **Base Price (incl. destination):** $36,400.

The Pilot's 3.5-litre V6 produces 250 horsepower.

Engine

Honda has coaxed greater operating economy from the standard 250-horsepower 3.5-litre V6 with internal-friction-reducing coatings, by improving alternator performance and with higher efficiency spark plugs. Additional mods include a more efficient power-steering pump.

Review. Honda charts a slight course correction for its popular all-roader

MALCOLM GUNN
Wheelbase Media

It has been said that the eyes are the window to the soul. In automotive terms, perhaps the same can be said for the grille.

More specifically, Honda's eight-passenger Pilot that was redesigned for the 2009 model year projected a go-anywhere strength and ruggedness.

Too tough, maybe. A restyle for 2012 softens the look for friendlier, more aesthetically pleasing demeanor.

Added to the grille adjustment, the Pilot receives new headlamps along with new and repositioned turn signals and a revised front air dam that reduces fuel-robbing aerodynamic drag.

What remains pretty much hidden from view is the Pilot's familial connection to Honda's premium-division Acura MDX.

Both of these unique wagons share the same basic platform, but from that point the comparison pretty much ends.

The Pilot's squared-off shape reinforces its sport utility-vehicle leanings, although ground-clearance limitations restrict the fun to boulder-free terrain and shin-deep – as opposed to knee-deep – mud. Even so, fording a 48-centimetre-deep body of standing water is apparently no problem for this rig.

Taken in its entirety, the modestly tweaked 2012 Pilot isn't a whole lot different.

But in a category where impressions count, this Honda puts its best face forward and backs it up with sufficient comfort and capability to win the day.

The biggest change in the cabin is the centrestack switchgear and gadgetry.

A look at the rear of the Pilot.

By comparison

1 Mazda CX-9
Base price: $30,200

2 Nissan Pathfinder
Base price: $29,400

3 Toyota Highlander
Base price: $28,900

5 DRIVE

Top Gear

Keychain link

Auto-themed keychains make excellent and inexpensive gifts for the car fanatic in your friends and/or family circle, including, of course, yourself. And a wide selection can be located at everythingcarz.com, among other online stores, including miniature disc brakes, gear-shift levers, steering wheels, along with tire/wheel and seat belt/buckle combos.

Wrangle up a Hemi

The folks at American Expedition Vehicles (AEV) can help turn your tepid Jeep Wrangler into one heck of a boonie basher with the help of the company's Hemi conversion kit. The standard $4,000 package includes the correct engine mounts, steering hardware, an aluminum radiator, wiring harness and the appropriate powertrain control module. aev-conversions.com.

On the Web

Scan code for more car reviews and news

Time machine in Chile

Autoknow. Revisiting 1988 with the help of a Hyundai Elantra

GARRY SOWERBY
Wheelbase Media

Life is comfortable inside the Hyundai Elantra GLS.

It's quiet too, except for the flipping-map-page sounds that my wife Lisa Calvi is making.

We are relaxed and joke about all the things we'll do on our escape from North America's gloomy, frozen winter.

Traffic is speedy on the four-lane freeway and even though the cruise control is set precisely at the 120 km/h speed limit, almost every car on the road is passing us. In the late afternoon the sun is high, looking more like noon.

My mind wanders then focuses on the last time I drove this Chilean section of the Pan American Highway. That was 25 years ago and instead of motoring south to the Colchugua Valley in a nimble and sporty Elantra, it was north in a diesel pick-up truck. It wasn't my loving wife beside me but burley Montana-based Rolling Stone magazine writer Tim Cahill.

The interior of the Elantra is neat and tidy. There's perfect instrumentation, my iPhone on the centre console and laptop computers in the back seat beside a Nikon digital camera.

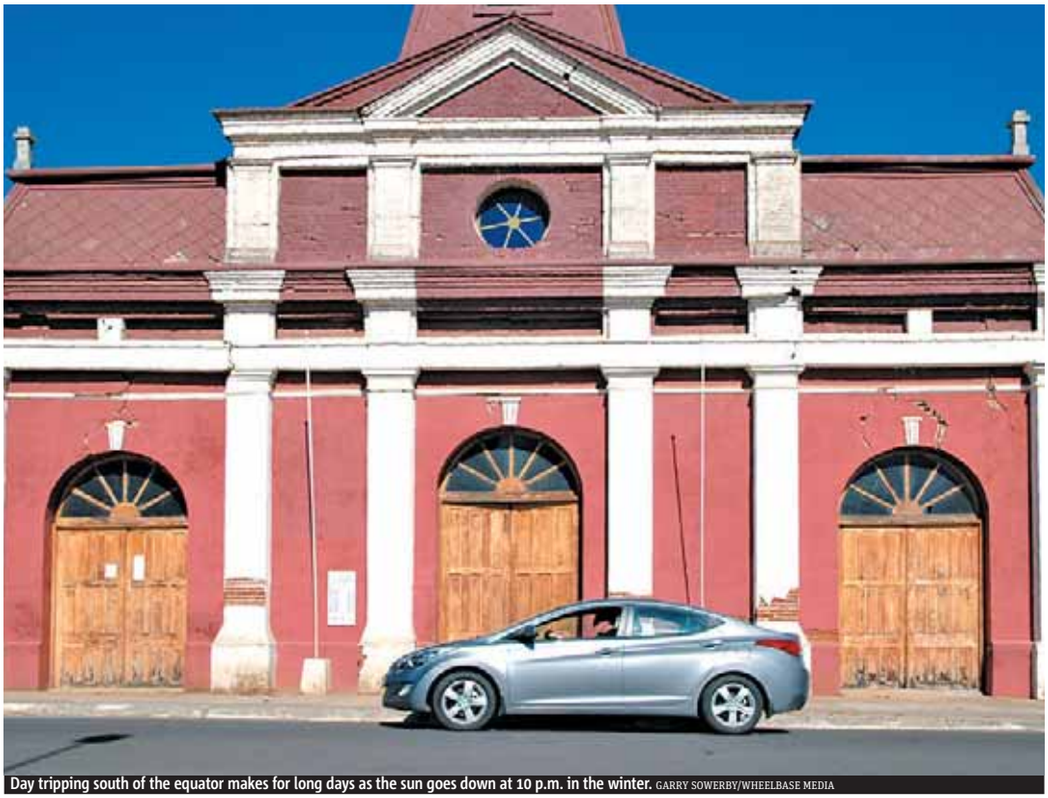
Want to touch base with home? Simply pick up that iPhone and call, text or email. No need, we'll be in Santa Cruz, hub of the Colchugua Valley winery area, settled into the cosy Hotel TerraVina in an hour. Our biggest problem will be deciding whether to try the upscale Italian Restaurant across the vineyard or the cute Peruvian one down the road for a late sunset dinner.

Quote

"Driving Chilean secondary roads is like playing an arcade game. Traffic moves at a lively clip and tailgating seems a national sport as drivers prepare to pass."
Garry Sowerby

Twenty-five years ago when Tim and I were at this point in the first production 1988 GMC 3500 diesel Sierra pick-up, things were different. We had driven non-stop for three days from Ushuaia on the Argentina side of Tierra del Fuego, about the same duration since Lisa and I arrived in Santiago.

The Sierra was filthy inside and out. Tired and wound tight with what lay ahead, we looked and smelled the part; bleary-eyed young men bent on setting a new record for the quickest time from the bottom to the top of the Americas to set a Guinness record. We were hoping to rendezvous with a container ship in Carthana, Columbia on Day 11 of the quest. We had no iPhone, laptop computers or digital cameras because they did not exist. Texting, email, fax machines or a freeway Chilean sector of the Pan American Highway? Dream on.



Day tripping south of the equator makes for long days as the sun goes down at 10 p.m. in the winter. GARRY SOWERBY/WHEELBASE MEDIA

"Take the Carrtera del Vino exit four kilometres past San Fernando then its about 45 minutes to the hotel." Lisa snaps me out of the daydream.

Over the next week we slip into vacation mode as every day seems like two. With sunset close to 10 p.m. winter days are long that far south of the equator. Life at Hotel TerraVina surrounded by a seemingly endless vineyard is relaxed.

A week in Chile's premium wine-making area tucked in the Andean foothills 200 kilometres south of the sprawling capital Santiago is like an all-inclusive holiday, indeed. However, rather than being trapped in the confines of a Caribbean or Mexican beach resort with throngs of North American vacationers, Colchagua Valley with its meandering back roads, superb wineries and funky commercial hub, Santa Cruze, is a resort all its own.

On the 11th day, we load the Hyundai for the three-hour drive back to Santiago and our flight home. As I set the Elantra's cruise control at 120 km/h, I look over at Lisa. She is tanned and relaxed as she checks e-mail on her iPhone.

"There's a message here from the airline," she says. "Looks like the Business Class upgrades have come through."

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American luxury brands get hipper and younger, with hipper, younger design talent

Autopilot

AUTO PILOT
Mike Goetz
drive@metronews.ca

Lincoln designer Max Wolff was at this year's Toronto auto show. MIKE GOETZ/FOR METRO

Not saying every recreational golfer in Florida over the age of 70 prefers a big, white Cadillac, just saying there might be a few.

Cadillac certainly appreciates its older clientele, but like all domestic luxury makes, it probably wouldn't mind a few more buyers who didn't prefer elastic-waistband jeans worn nice and high over the hip.

It's no secret that younger customers who shop in luxury segments seem to have taken more of a shining to offshore-based makes, like Audi, Mercedes-Benz, Lexus, etc.

Cadillac has already made huge demographic ground on those makes over the last decade, by introducing very edgy, modern-looking machinery. The upcoming XTS and ATS models will certainly push the median Cadillac buyer ages younger.

Lincoln, on the other hand, is still waiting for its bigger turnaround. It won't be long in coming. Over the last 18 months Lincoln has been completely re-organized, re-staffed and re-focussed. For one thing, it now has a separate design office and staff apart from Ford, within the mothership's sprawling facilities in Dearborn, Michigan.

And the new man heading up Lincoln design embodies pretty much what Lincoln hopes to become — Max Wolff is youngish (39), fashionable, worldly, and driven. His last gig was at GM, where he did work at Cadillac, and at GM's design studios in Australia and Korea. The move to bring the Australian to Lincoln about 12 months ago makes perfect sense — if you want your vehicles to be hipper and younger, why not hire younger, hipper people to create them?

The personable Wolff was at the Toronto auto show this year, accompanying the Lincoln MKZ Concept.

"The MKZ concept is an indication of where we want to take the brand going forward, and it certainly doesn't have any aesthetic link to any Lincoln of the past," noted Wolff.

"We want to start communicating that a bit more, that Lincoln is a progressive luxury brand and we're looking forward more so than backwards."

Buick is another domestic luxury brand hoping to attract a younger demographic, and it also appears to be leaning on young design talent to get there.

At the Detroit auto show I met Magdelena Kokoszynsku, one of the interior designers for Buick's new, compact crossover, called Encore.

Young and female, she seems an antithesis to what one might perceive to be the typical Buick target customer, but she begs to differ…

"Our generation doesn't yet have that relationship (with Buick). For us, it's almost like a fresh brand. I've never seen Buick as an 'old person' vehicle. To me, it's new, fresh, and up and coming brand."

Buick recruited the native New Yorker directly from art school.

Another force pushing American luxury makes forward, whether they like it or not, is the global nature of the auto industry.

They need to create vehicles that speak to luxury customers in every part of the world, and not just those white-panted golfers in the Sunshine State.

Correction

- In last week's column a Canadian Tire spokesperson was incorrectly named. His name is Jordan Shiffman.

Lexus reliability is apparent in ES lineup

Second Gear.
2002 to 2006 Lexus ES

JUSTIN PRITCHARD
Drive@metronews.ca

The Lexus ES was intended as a purely luxurious car from Toyota's upscale brand.

The Lexus IS line handled entry-level luxury-sportiness, leaving the ES a step above as an affordable luxury-focused model.

If it's an easygoing and laid-back luxury car you're after, the ES should do the trick.

Feature content included push-button engine start, Mark Levinson audio, steering wheel-mounted audio controls and wood trim.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Engine

Early models got Toyota's 3.0 litre V6 with 210 horsepower and 220 lb.-ft of torque. For 2004, a larger 3.3-litre V6 was used, delivering 225 horsepower and 240 lb.-ft of torque.

What Owners Like

Styling, a premium feel, comfort levels, noise levels and safety equipment levels were all highly rated by Lexus ES owners. Fuel mileage is also typically commented positively upon.

What Owners Dislike

Complaints centre around plain styling, a soft suspension and a numb, disconnected steering feel. The ES is not a car for driving enthusiasts.

Common Issues

The big issue with this car is the gearbox. The problem isn't necessarily a mechanical defect but a software issue within the transmission computer.

An update was made available at dealerships, but results seem mixed at best. Be sure to 'feel' the ES you're driving for signs of sloppy gearshifts, hesitation or hard shifting.

Have these issues remedied if they're present, before agreeing to purchase.

Also, have the ES you're considering checked for proper alignment, and be sure all interior electronics work as expected. The condition of the tires and brakes should be checked as well.

Verdict

An ES free of transmission-related issues that's been properly cared for should provide years of luxurious and trouble-free driving alongside top-notch resale value.

Costly components earn their keep in electric cars

Driving Force.
BMW about to set new standards with use of carbon fibre

JIL MCINTOSH
Drive@metronews.ca

Most cars have been on a diet for quite a while now. It takes more energy to move a heavier weight, and newer, lighter vehicles are inherently more fuel-efficient. But while that's important for a gasoline-powered car, it's even more critical for one that runs on battery power.

BMW plans to introduce two new models: the i3, an all-electric car, and the i8, a plug-in hybrid. Both will also set new standards as the first high-volume cars made with carbon fibre. The material is extremely strong and light but very expensive, which has traditionally limited its use in conventional vehicles. On an electric vehicle, though, a heavier car needs a bigger battery to achieve its range – and those larger batteries can potentially be pricier than the carbon fibre.

"For the first time in history, lightweight has a business case that pays off," says Ian Robertson, member of the board of management for BMW Group.

"In the past, lightweight was interesting, but you couldn't prove that if you used carbon fibre, the weight would turn into a cost factor."

The models use a construction concept, called LifeDrive, which consists of two independent units. The "Drive" module is made chiefly from aluminum, another lightweight material, and integrates the suspension, battery, drive system and crash protection.

The "Life" module is the passenger cabin, made from carbon fibre-reinforced plastic. The design is similar to that of a Formula One race car and helps protect occupants in collisions while keeping the vehicle from tipping the scales too far.

The i3 runs solely on its battery, which is set under the floor and protected by the aluminum structure. This also gives the car a lower centre of gravity for better handling. The hybrid i8 uses both gasoline and electricity, so its battery is smaller and stored in a tunnel between the front and rear axles.

"Fully electric vehicles have to be designed from the ground up," Robertson says, noting that it isn't enough to just rip out a gas engine and substitute an electric motor. "Lightweight materials are advancing quickly and we will be the first company to bring in a high-volume carbon fibre structure."

Small is OK

- With its lightweight construction and electric motor, the BMW i8 won't need a large gasoline engine: it will use a turbocharged three-cylinder engine but will be capable of reaching 250 km/h.

The concept version of the upcoming BMW i8 plug-in hybrid at the Detroit Auto Show. JIL MCINTOSH/FOR METRO

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Giving small cars some serious attitude

Small cars were looking more sleek and sporty at the Geneva Auto Show on Tuesday as global automakers struggling to make a profit in Europe tried to entice consumers to look past the continent's economic gloom.

Ford premiered the B-Max, a subcompact aimed at families, while Mercedes is looking for younger buyers – read under 50 – for the new A Class. Audi rolled out the third-generation in its A3 series, which 15 years ago was the first compact in the premium market.

Fiat launched its 500L, an elongated version of the tiny 500 city car that is being made in Serbia, and Toyota has put a little snarl on the hybrid version of its bestselling Yaris to give it a more aggressive look. Peugeot is setting an automotive standard by making its new 208 smaller than its predecessor.

The launches are a far cry from the days when small cars were spartan money-savers. While remaining easy on fuel consumption and light on emissions, these models are tooled with the latest safety features and touches of luxury to spruce up the compact and subcompact segments that comprise some 80 per cent of the European market.

By the numbers

58%

Fiat is among a long list of European automakers that is losing money in Europe that includes Peugeot-Citroen PSA, General Motors' Adam Opel, and Renault. Fiat is aiming to build cars in Italy for export to the United States, where it has a 58.8 per cent share in Chrysler through a nearly three-year-old alliance.

"Remember when smaller cars used to be cheap and cheerful? Now the consumers want the finest quality, the finest fuel efficiency, safety and design," said Ford CEO Alan Mulally.

The problem for European mass market automakers is that consumer demand has shrivelled under the pressure of the sovereign debt crisis: this year sales are expected to shrink nearly five per cent to 12.9 million units, according to the Center for Automotive Research.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Dieter Zetsche, CEO of Daimler AG and Mercedes-Benz cars, introduces the new A-Class on Tuesday at the Geneva International Motor Show.

FRANK AUGSTEIN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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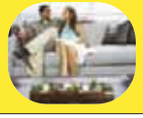

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Storage-Mart #3022, 947 Warden Avenue, Scarborough, On M1L 4E3 – Unit 2231 J. Richardson, Unit 1461 I. Scelsi, Unit 1504 N. Alexandria, Unit 1589 S. Bennet • Storage-Mart #3023, 25 Crouse Road, Scarborough, Ontario M1R 5P8 – Unit 3003 M. Pantich, Unit 3082 M. Liatke • Storage-Mart #3024, 81 Arrow Road, Toronto, Ontario M9M 2L4 – Units 1116 a. Harrison, Unit 1143 A. Green, Unit 1215 S. Clarke, Unit 2108 J. Jesso, Unit 2192 N. Hasebenebi, Unit 2226 L. Anderson, Unit 2340 F. Wright • Storage-Mart #3030, 3429 Kennedy Road, Scarborough, On M1V 4Y3 – Unit 3611 H. Chen • Storage-Mart #3031, 4780 Sheppard Avenue East, Scarborough, On M1S 3V6 – Unit 1035 A. Leo, Unti 2043 K. Jules, Unit 2441 A. Lindsay, Unit 5019 S. Khan, Unit 5029 V. Scott, Units 5003/6004 L. Issac. • Storage-Mart #3032, 85 Westney Road, Ajax, On. L1S 2C9 – Unit 3260 Orange Hill Construction, Unit 7014 J. Erickson • Storage-Mart #3033, 1700 Alliance Road, Pickering, On L1W 3X2 – Unit C43 R. Burrell, Unit B50 M. Cervantes, Unit P42 P. Wilkinson • Storage-Mart #3034, 996 Farewell Avenue, Oshawa, On L1H 6N6 – Units 47N/48N D. Cochrane, Unit 41N R. Donalson, 72S A. Billion, 42N E. Erwin, 45N D. Erwin

According to the Lease by and between the customers listed above and TKG-StorageMart and its related parties, assigns and affiliates in order to perfect the Lien on the goods contained in their storage units, the Manager has cut the lock on their Unit(s) UPON COURSORY INSPECTION THE UNITS WERE FOUND TO CONTAIN: Household goods, furniture, and misc. items. Items will be sold or otherwise disposed of at this site on March 23, 2012 at approximate times listed by the address above to satisfy owner lien in accordance with the Provincial statues. Terms of the sale are CASH ONLY, no cheques will be accepted. All goods are sold in "as in condition". Tax must be paid or resale numbers furnished. Buyers must provide own lock if needed. Seller reserves the right to overbid. All items or spaces may not be available on date of sale. Please call 416-291-5353 Ext. 2 for auction times.

Public Auctions

NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

Storage Mart #3007 542 Evans Avenue, Etobicoke ON M8W 2V4: #3400 Sharron Pattison. #5062 Frank Peterkin, #5079 Purewal Surinder, #6124 Terry Williams, #3314 Toronto Mortgage Helpline C/o Mukesh Patel • Storagemart #3008 680 Kipling Avenue, Etobicoke, ON M8Z 5G3: #1530 David Ayearst , # 2101 Suki Suad, #3121 Curtis Auwaerter , #4110 Greg Wakelin • StorageMart #3009 110 Guided Crt, Etobicoke, On M9V 4K6: #A0063 Jacqueline Scott-Rowe • Storage Mart #3012 144 Norseman Street, Etobicoke ON M8Z 2R4: #1015 David Talaga, # 2121 Jason Beard, #2304 Robert Chorny #2710 Saul Messinger, # 3126 Kyra Rattray, #4516 Obi Orakwue • Storage Mart #3013 221 Todd Baylis Blvd, Toronto ON M6M4L2: #1158 Randy Hamilton, #1509 Carlos da Silva, #2101 Ann Marie Fredrick , #3101 Nickesha Mcewan, #4004 Merlin Baca • Storage Mart #3014 555 Trethewey Drive Toronto ON M6M 4B8: B014 Palacios Restaration, P012 Stuart Cowan, D1145 Sava Milivojevic, D2366 Pranav Sant, E1090 Lincoln Palmer, E2016 Lennox Lamont, E2027 Lanzon Ron, E2297 Nelson Chang • Storage Mart #3015 120 Wicksteed Ave, Toronto ON M4G 4K7: #1422 Kyra Rattray, #1433 Joseph Lacroix, #2600 Kimberly Nowasad Penner, #1702 Lesley Allan • Storage Mart Weston #3017 8929 Weston Rd, Woodbridge, On L4L-1A6: – Vito Tucci # 177/178s • Storage Mart #3018 605 Alden Road, Markham ON L3R 3L5: #1548 Roddy Rampersad, #1336 Joseph Ingram • Storage Mart #3025 875 Don Mills Rd, Toronto ON M3C 1V9: #1228 Barbara McDougall, #1310 Tia Hutton, #1473 Syed Hussain, #2102 Rishaard Hyndman, #2911 Sang Lee • StorageMart #3028 10345 Keele Street, Maple ON L6A 3Y9: #1036 Seyed Ziaei

According to the Lease by and between the customers listed above listed above and TKG-StorageMart and its related parties, assigns and affiliates in order to perfect the Lien on the goods contained in their storage units, the Manager has cut the lock on their Unit(s) UPON A COURSORY INSPECTION THE UNITS WERE FOUND TO CONTAIN: Household goods, furniture and misc items. Items will be sold or other wise disposed of at this site on March 23rd, 2012 to satisfy owner lien in accordance with the Provincial statues. Terms of the sale are cash only. No cheques will be accepted. All goods are sold in "as is "condition. Tax must be paid or resale numbers furnished. Buyers must provide own lock if needed. Seller reserves the right to overbid. All items or spaces may not be available on date of sale. Please call 416.503.0892 ext 2 for auction times.

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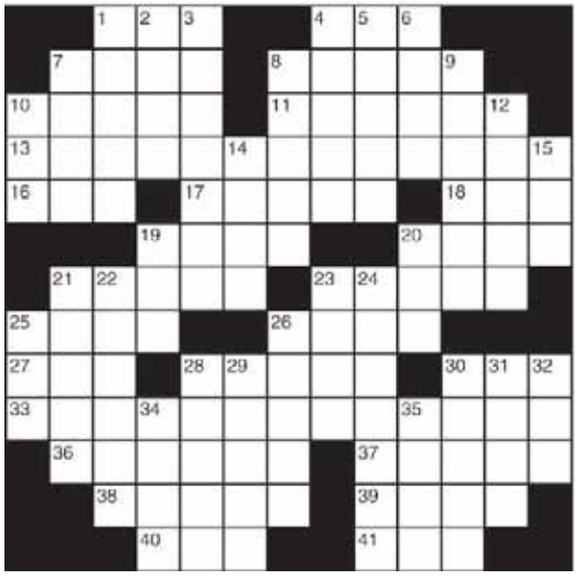
Crossword



Across
1 Animation frame
4 "Undeniably"
7 Pop
8 Knighted women
10 Dark
11 Gather
13 Paid
16 Possess
17 66, for example
18 Dead heat
19 "Green Acres" setting
20 Old fogy
21 2009 news-making pilot, familiarly
23 San Diego athlete
25 Sicilian spouter
26 Small pie
27 In favor of
28 Paces
30 Glutton
33 Behaving
36 Throw off the tracks
37 Particular occasion
38 Type of cotton thread
39 Tittle
40 That woman
41 Bookkeeper (Abbr.)

Down
1 Punctuation marks
2 Rewrite, maybe
3 Sideways
4 Pleasure boat
5 Host
6 Belgrade native
7 Winter forecast
8 Fact
9 Swain
10 Venusian vessel?
12 Drop a sound
14 "Finding Nemo" character
15 Virgo neighbor
19 Orlando st.
20 Banned pesticide
21 Got up
22 Play out, as fishing line
23 Maze option
24 "— and Old Lace"
25 Sala-mander
26 Piece of info on a marquee
28 Grit your teeth
29 Spry
30 1492 craft
31 Erstwhile Peruvian
32 "Gosh!"
34 Rainbow
35 Circle

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

Monday's answer

S	I	T	S		T	S	P		G	R	A	D
P	O	E	T		A	L	A		R	A	R	E
L	W	L	H		C	A	M	P	A	I	G	N
G	A	M	E	L	O	T		A	N	N	O	Y
			S	I	S		G	L	D			
H	O	R	S	E		C	A	M	E	R	O	N
I	V	E			F	A	R			A	B	A
C	A	M	P	H	O	R		G	A	M	I	N
				O	E	R		B	E	T		
S	P	O	O	R		C	A	M	B	R	I	C
C	A	M	P	B	E	L	L		E	A	S	E
A	L	E	E		R	O	E		S	K	I	S
B	E	N	D		A	D	D		T	E	S	T

Sudoku

4					6		1	8
			5					7
8			1				2	
			8	9	5		4	
	2						6	
	9		7	6	2			
	8				1			3
3					7			
7	5		9					2

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer

6	2	5	1	7	9	8	4
8	7	9	4	3	6	1	2
3	4	1	2	8	5	6	9
2	9	3	7	4	1	5	8
7	1	6	8	5	2	9	3
5	8	4	6	9	3	2	7
9	5	7	3	1	8	4	6
1	3	2	9	6	4	7	5
4	6	8	5	2	7	3	1

Send a kiss

- **MY MAN.** okay maybe not today, but tomorrow or that next day for sure. i dont even know why were arguing anyways LOL but i waanna talk to you so imma do it, it would be easier if you would meet me in the library by those round tables at the back at 1124. Ill be waiting:P love you From extraextralious
- **Vikky Prince.** hi tori you dont know how happy i am its true you promised to come here to your home but didnt still i am glad that you are in calgary and with your family HAPPY FREED-OME. From Jose
- **Bimmervalt Secret Crush.** It has been 8 months and my feelings for you get deeper and deeper by the second. I love you although you don't. I know I'm such a loser!!! From Loser
- **Blitz.** I had such a good time being big spoon last night, you are the perfect little spoon. Call me so we can do it again soon! From TheGayGhost
- **Sexy Redhead in Eng Phys.** I think I have the eigenfunction, to satisfy your eigenvalue problem. Nerd love <3. From Eng Phys Lady to be

Today 12°/-1° Variable
Thursday 10°/-5° Rain 90%
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Horoscope

♈ Aries | March 21 - April 20. Someone on the work front is giving you a hard time at the moment but you are advised to stay calm and not let your anger get the better of you

♉ Taurus | April 21 - May 21. You will defend someone you don't much like today.

♊ Gemini | May 22 - June 20. If you fear the worst today then the worst will most likely happen.

♋ Cancer | June 21 - July 22. The approaching full moon warns there is a real chance you will bite off more than you can chew and end up looking silly.

♌ Leo | July 23 - Aug. 22. You will either get an extraordinary amount of work done today or no work at all

♍ Virgo | Aug. 23 - Sept. 22. You feel you deserve more than you are currently getting, and no doubt you are right, but it won't just happen as if by magic.

♎ Libra | Sept. 23 - Oct. 22. This could be and should be a beneficial time for you, but good things won't just fall into your lap.

♏ Scorpio | Oct. 23 - Nov. 21. You will get lucky in some way today, but you may feel guilty about it as those around you have to deal with a series of misfortunes.

♐ Sagittarius | Nov. 22 - Dec. 21. Someone in a position of authority will put you to the test over the next few days and you will need all your mental and emotional strength to win through.

♑ Capricorn | Dec. 22 - Jan 20. Don't waste your time on people who are either too lazy or too stupid to work things out for themselves.

♒ Aquarius | Jan. 21 - Feb 18. Give your mind and body a rest over the next 24 hours

♓ Pisces | Feb. 19 - March 20. Believe in yourself and have faith in your abilities.

SALLY BROMPTON

JONATHAN HAYWARD / THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Caption Contest

"Like two conjoined twins in a pod!"
AL

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